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INSETS.

THE Publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is now booking orders for the insertion of booklets, circulars, and price-lists in the Winter Issue as insets. The Issue falls on January 30, 1909. The Winter Issue affords the alert business man, who wishes to appeal to the drug and chemical trades, his great advertising opportunity. It is another of the series of world-famed Special Issues of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST with illuminated covers, artistic insets, and attractive advertisements. The advertisements are carefully followed by men in business in India, Australia, Canada, South Africa, West Indies, New Zealand, China, Japan, the United States, South America, Egypt, and on the European Continent as well as the United Kingdom. For full particulars write to the Publisher, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

AS WE ARE CLOSING FOR PRESS the second reading of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill was moved by Mr. Herbert Samuel, and we give a report of the proceedings in this issue beginning on p. 858. After two hours' discussion, in which many members took part, the bill was read a second time and referred to Committee.

FOR some new analytical notes see the report on p. 870.

THE FORMATION is suggested of an association of chemist-dentists (p. 878).

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL MEETING concluded last Saturday and is reported on p. 865.

NEW ZEALAND's new system of stopping letters posted to quacks is working satisfactorily (p. 852).

MR. R. H. HARLAND, a well-known analyst in London, has died under chloroform anaesthesia (p. 848).

"PAINLESS EXTRACTIONS" has again been the means of getting a practitioner fined under the Dentists' Act (p. 853).

MR. F. P. SARGEANT's notes on horticultural preparations, printed on p. 873, should be turned into money by chemists.

THE British Pharmacopœia Committee's report is on p. 866. The Revision is progressing, and results so far are to be published.

CAMWAL, LTD., have altered their memorandum of association so that they may supply waters direct to the public on behalf of chemists (p. 855).

A BRITISH INSTITUTION of Applied Pharmacy is suggested by Mr. Palmer, of Cheltenham, as a remedy for the evils of the trade (p. 869).

A HEWLETT SCHOLARSHIP in the School of Pharmacy has been founded by Mr. John C. Hewlett in memory of his father. Particulars on p. 867.

MR. WILLIAM FLUX, Emeritus solicitor to the Pharmaceutical Society, and Dr. A. M. Robertson, of Glasgow, both octogenarians, have died during the past week (p. 856).

THE BRITISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION's SUGGESTION that the General Medical Council should further restrict advertising by dentists has not been agreed to by the Council (p. 865).

THE ABSURDITIES of the U.S.A. tariff on medicinal and pharmaceutical chemicals have been exposed by Mr. Albert Plaut before the House of Representatives Committee (p. 852).

THE CAPE TREASURY have issued a memorandum stating the nature of the medicines which should be stamped (p. 851). We point out that the memorandum goes far beyond the terms of the Act (p. 862).

We point out in an article on p. 863 some of the difficulties encountered in the importation of drugs into the United States consequent on the peculiar rulings of the Board of Food and Drug Inspection.

THE FEATURE of the drug and chemical markets is the advance in bromides; other articles which have appreciated include acetates, acetic acid, aloin, chrysarobin, quillaia, and cocoa-butter. Lemon oil, ammonia sulphate, and sulphonal are cheaper. The last drug-sales of the year were held this week (p. 874).

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

BENZIN.—Keen competition continues and has reduced the article to such a low level that the works have scarcely any profit left. The only way to put an end to this movement would be by an agreement on the part of manufacturers, but at present there is no prospect of this.

CITRIC ACID is very slack. No fresh purchases of large quantities have been made for several weeks, owing to the uncertainty with regard to the position later on. For this year the article will maintain its present value; the position for next year cannot be foretold, but, in view of the present conditions for raw material, it may be estimated that the minimum price will be 300m.

MARSHMALLOW.—The new crop is coming on well, and in view of this there has been some anxiety during recent weeks to clear off stocks. A general reduction in prices may be looked for at the beginning of December.

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Archibald Wilson (41), a Jarrow dock worker, went into a tank which was being filled with anti-corrosive bitumen solution, to rescue his stepson from the fumes, when he himself was overcome, and died in consequence.

The Royal Agricultural Society of England offer two prizes of 10*l.* and 5*l.* for the best hand spraying-machines for spraying plants, also two prizes of 20*l.* and 10*l.* for the best portable spraying-machine worked by power.

At the funeral of Mr. G. T. Turner, Ph.C., Clifton, at Redland Green burial-ground, on November 26, the Bristol Pharmaceutical Association was represented by Messrs. T. Grant (President), Berry, Partridge, Chandler, Blott, Isaac, Buxton, and others.

George Foster, Lambeth, was committed for trial at High Wycombe, on November 25, on a charge of stealing eight sets of false teeth, value 5*l.*, from a showcase of Messrs. Fuge & Co., chemists, 3 White Hart Street, High Wycombe. Damage was also done to the case.

Mr. J. S. Crabb, chemist and druggist, Sunningdale, who went to the assistance of Lord Curzon on the occasion of a motor-smash (*C. & D.*, September 26, p. 502), was himself injured (as was also Mr. H. Blackett, a well-known golfer) in a collision at Sunningdale on November 27. Mr. Blackett fractured some ribs, but Mr. Crabb is less seriously hurt.

The ignition of sulphur during grinding caused an outbreak of fire at the drug-mills of Messrs. M. A. Aitken & Son, Beddington Corner, Mitcham, on November 26. The fire-brigade had no difficulty in stopping the fire, but the drug-room, a brick building with an iron roof, and the machine were damaged to the extent of about 30*l.* The building is insured.

The Acton Education Committee is (subject to the usual sanction) to make application to the Board of Education for permission to supply spectacles, at a cost up to 50*l.*, to school-children whose parents are unable to provide them. It has been reported that 534 scholars suffer from defective eyesight, of which number 114 are at the Beaumont Park Girls' School.

At the inquest on Margaret O. M. Turney (18), at Kidlington, near Oxford, the jury found that death was due to an attack of asthma started by an injection of diphtheria antitoxin. The sister of the deceased was suffering from diphtheria, and the injection of antitoxin as a prophylactic was followed by the death of the patient within a few minutes from acute asthmatic spasms. She had suffered from asthma for several years.

At the Manchester Police Court on November 26, George Capper (14), the son of a Hulme chemist, was charged with doing grievous harm to another Hulme boy, named William Sweetman, by throwing a corrosive fluid. The Stipendiary dismissed the case, as, after hearing the evidence, he thought the matter was accidental.

Forensic Chemistry.

The third lecture of this series was delivered by Mr. William Jago, F.I.C., F.C.S., at University College on Friday, November 27. Dealing with chemical evidence in civil actions he quoted several recent cases in which analysts were concerned, including actions for damages, for libel, and for nuisance, such as fumes from chemical-works and pollution of water by chemical effluents. In such cases it is necessary to show visible damage or chemical evidence is not admissible. The next section comprised passing-off actions—i.e., selling goods as and for those of another. This was of particular interest, as it dealt with secret preparations such as Angostura Bitters and Yorkshire Relish. Patent law was next considered, and the regulations under the new Act briefly considered. The Controller now has power to reject or accept and to decide questions of opposition. Persons who are prejudiced by a patent may obtain revocation, and petitions should be made to the Attorney-General by those prejudiced. In actions for revocation plaintiff must show that the patent is not useful or is

identical with an older process. Chemical evidence may be required to show similarity of two processes or products, and to prove that two substances are equivalent in chemical action. The lecturer recommended those interested to read the judgments in leading cases.

Rat-virus.

In continuation of the investigation (*C. & D.*, November 7, p. 706) on rat-viruses sold in the City of London, the medical officer of health (Dr. Collingridge) gives, in his November report, the results of an examination of "Ratin" "No. 1" and "No. 2" and "Ready Rat Relief," the last-named being referred to in the report as "Rat-virus No. 3." Each of the samples was planted on Dougalski-Conradi medium and therefrom sub-cultured from single colonies. Dr. Klein states that—

From the experiments it follows that all these viruses are culturally and morphologically closely related, and belong to the group of bacteria which are included in the "Paratyphoid" group, to which belong the paratyphoid bacteria proper, the *Danysz bacillus*, *Gaertner bacillus*, and the two microbes reported on recently—viz., *Secker* microbe and *Liverpool virus*. The close relation of the rat-virus microbes Ratin 1, Ratin 2, and Rat-virus 3 is also indicated by the fact that an emulsion of a recent culture in broth of either of the above microbes is readily agglutinated—almost instantly—by blood-serum of a rabbit (1) immunised with *Secker* microbe, or (2) immunised with *Liverpool virus*. It is clear from this at least a "group-relation" exists between all these.

Details of the experiments by feeding rats and subcutaneous injection of guinea-pigs are given, the results showing the relative potency of the preparations.

Agricultural Poisons.

The Wharfedale Chamber of Agriculture met at Otley on November 27 to consider the agenda of the next meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture. A resolution was passed—

That there is no necessity to onlarge the scope of the Poisons and Pharmacy Acts by permitting other than qualified persons to sell poisons.

The Fareham Farmers' Club discussed Clause 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill at a recent meeting at Fareham, when a resolution supporting the Bill was carried. In April 1903 the Club passed a resolution to the effect that it is undesirable to remove the restrictions from the sale of poisons. The arguments promoting the change of opinion were:

Instead of having to go perhaps ten miles to a chemist they would be able to get what poisons they required within perhaps a mile, and a reduction of the monopoly would mean a reduction in price.

Death of a Chemist under Chloroform.

Dr. George Danford Thomas, Senior Coroner for Central London, held an inquest at the Marylebone Coroner's Court on November 27 respecting the death of Mr. Robert Henry Harland, F.I.C., F.C.S., aged fifty, analytical chemist, of Plough Court, E.C., who had died on the previous Wednesday while under the influence of chloroform.—The evidence adduced went to show that the deceased had for a long time suffered from severe pains in the right ear and head, which compelled him to seek medical advice. His complaint was diagnosed as abscess of the right ear, and the medical adviser added that, as a quantity of pus had formed in the head, an operation was necessary. Mr. Harland decided to act upon the advice, and accordingly entered a private nursing home in Bentinck Street, Cavendish Square, on the Tuesday, where he was prepared for the operation. The surgeons decided upon the administration of an anæsthetic, and that it should be chloroform. On Wednesday, November 25, this was administered with the utmost care, but directly afterwards, and before the operation could be entered on, the patient commenced to kick and struggle very violently. The doctors then noticed an ominous change in the subject's countenance, and at once resorted to all the well-known methods to bring about artificial respiration, but without avail, Mr. Harland dying in a few moments.—Dr. Spurgin, the divisional police surgeon of the "D" district, was called in by the Coroner to make a special *post-mortem* examination, and, having done so, discovered the heart and liver to be diseased. There was a deep abscess of the right ear, and in the doctor's opinion death was due to syncope, owing to the advanced state of the

heart-disease, produced by excitement while under the anæsthetic.—The Coroner observed that the percentage of deaths under anæsthetics was exceedingly low, being only one in about 4,000 or 5,000 cases. There was a popular fallacy that a medical man could detect beforehand whether a person could undergo an anæsthetic with safety, but the form of the heart-disease in Mr. Harland's case was such as to render its detection impossible during lifetime. He was sure every precaution had been taken, and he thought it very unfortunate when doctors were doing their very best to preserve life that death took place, as in the present instance.—A juror asked if the heart-disease might have been found out if the deceased had been examined thoroughly before the operation.—Dr. Spurgin replied that it was very obscure indeed, and no external examination would have revealed it.—The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

Contracts.

Crompton Urban Council have accepted the tender of Mr. Yates for the supply of chemicals.

London County Council.—For the year's supply of chemical apparatus at estimated values: Andrews & Mumford, Ltd., 9*l.*; Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., 93*l.*; Brown & Son, 59*l.*; J. R. Collins & Co., 15*l.*; A. Favre & Co., 23*l.*; A. Gallenkamp & Co., Ltd., 257*l.*; J. J. Griffin & Sons, Ltd., 315*l.*; T. A. Reynolds & Co., 11*l.*; Townson & Mercer, 230*l.*; the West London Scientific Apparatus Co., 53*l.* In all cases, except Messrs. T. A. Reynolds & Co., the quantities are not given in certain items. Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers (1900), Ltd., for 14,800 tons of lime delivered into store at the Barking outfall works at 14*s.* 4*d.* per ton; Messrs. Peters Bros., Victoria Street, S.W., for 9,900 tons delivered into store at the Crossness outfall works at 14*s.* 1*d.* per ton.

Analysts' Affairs.

The Hackney public analyst found five samples of olive oil and six samples each of camphorated oil and paregoric submitted for analysis during the quarter to be genuine.

Mr. William E. Powney, A.I.C., has been appointed assistant in the gas-testing department of the London County Council at a commencing salary of 150*l.* per annum. Mr. Powney had been a relieving assistant gas-examiner. There were thirty applications.

The Bermondsey Public Health Committee have given instructions, in response to a reply from the London County Council respecting warranty anomalies in Bermondsey, for a letter to be sent to the L.C.C. pointing out that a communication sent over two and a half years ago can hardly be regarded as "recent," and urging that they (the County Council) will again communicate with the Board of Agriculture and the Local Government Board on the need of legislation being promoted. The Committee have also given instructions for letters to be sent to the two Boards on the same subject.

The Deptford Public Health Committee have appointed, subject to the usual sanction, Mr. Henry G. Harrison, M.A., F.I.C., as temporary analyst to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Mr. R. H. Harland, at a fee of 10*s.* per sample. Mr. Harrison has been recently appointed public analyst for the borough of Shoreditch. Applications are to be invited for the vacant post, and applicants will be requested to state the terms per sample on which they will undertake the duties. The minimum number of samples will be 300 a year, and the fee is to include provision of laboratory materials.

Birmingham Notes.

At a Birmingham dental hospital meeting it was stated that 96 per cent. of the Board School children had bad teeth.

Mr. F. Smith, Ph.C., Handsworth has secured the silver cup given by the Handsworth Constitution Club in their billiard tournament.

The grocers' crusade against the Co-operative Stores, according to the Chairman of their local association, is not moving as fast as it was three years ago.

Mr. A. R. Smith, M.Sc., whose successes were recorded in last week's *C. & D.*, is brother to Canon Reader Smith,

domestic chaplain to Dr. Gore, the Anglican Bishop of Birmingham.

In reply to your query last week of students who took a Minor before they were of age, Mr. H. W. Jones, F.C.S. (Messrs. Wyley & Co., Coventry), passed in 1870 at the age of about seventeen.

Sheffield Notes.

Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme and Professor W. P. Wynne were among those present at the annual meeting of the Court of Governors of the Sheffield University, held on November 27.

Louis Albert Phillips (28), who hails from Cheltenham, walked into Mr. J. H. Harrison's shop, No. 116 Abbeydale Road, on Tuesday night, and asked the assistant to make up a gargle for him. While the assistant was doing this, Phillips opened one of the glass cases, took out a bottle of syrup of figs, and put it in his pocket. He was charged with theft, and the Stipendiary Magistrate sentenced him to sixteen days' imprisonment on Wednesday.

In a case before the Sheffield Stipendiary on November 25, in which a man named Joseph Brown (34) was charged with attempting to administer poison to his youngest child, a boy of three years, Mr. George Squire, Ph.C., of Haymarket, stated that he had examined the bottle found at the prisoner's house. It was, he said, nearly full of laudanum, and a small quantity of it would be sufficient to kill a child. The prisoner was committed to the Assizes.

Irish News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Contracts.

At the Kingstown Urban Council meeting on November 30, the contract for the supply of formaldehyde was given to Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson, at 9*d.* per lb.

The Mullingar Asylum Board invite tenders for the supply of medicines and medical appliances to their institution. Tenders are to be delivered at the asylum on or before December 17.

Personal Items.

The Mercers' Company have made over to the town of Kilrea the Flax Market, the Corn Mart, the Fair Hill, and the Court House of that town, and Mr. James Hunter, M.P.S.I., has been appointed as one of the three trustees.

Messrs. Garry & Co., The Medical Hall, 10 Greville Street, Mullingar, which is managed by Mr. James Dale, pharmaceutical chemist, send out a monthly magazine entitled "Household Hints." The first copy was sent out in November.

Commenting on the refusal of the Local Government Board to allow Dr. Casey certain increments of salary in respect of his position as dispensary officer to the North Dublin Union (*C. & D.*, November 28, p. 814), Dr. Casey says all he expected was that if his predecessor was allowed eight years for his sixteen years' service as dispenser the same consideration should be allowed to him, he having acted for seventeen years as dispenser. He strongly objects to be treated as a stranger, and complains that he will never be able to attain the maximum salary by reason of his age.

THE imports of drugs to the Friendly Islands, Western Pacific, during 1907 amounted in value to 1,058*l.*, against 495*l.* in 1906 and 390*l.* in 1905.

"PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULAS" is a valuable contribution to pharmacists who desire to progress and keep pace with modern needs.—*Mr. John Hargreaves*, Chairman Research Committee, Ontario College of Pharmacy.

A NEW GUM FROM GERMAN EAST AFRICA.—A new gum known as "Gundi" has been discovered in the Tabora steppes, large quantities being obtained from a species of *Acacia*. It is similar to gum arabic and Senegal gum, but has to be dissolved in hot water under pressure. The solution possesses adhesive properties, but turns to a jelly on keeping. It is regarded as a second-class adhesive that may find technical uses if shipped cheaply enough.

Scotch News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Aberdeen and the North.

Mr. Alex. Joiner, chemist, has been elected to a seat in the Nairn Town Council.

At a meeting of Dundee District Committee of the County Council, held on November 27, it was agreed to supply diphtheria antitoxin free to poor patients.

Mr. D. S. Rattray, pharmaceutical chemist, Desswood Place, on entering his pharmacy one night last week, about 10 o'clock, discovered a burglar behind the door. Mr. Rattray succeeded in holding him until assistance arrived, when the man was removed to the police office. He has since been committed for trial. Other two men have also been arrested in connection with the case. Admittance had been gained to the shop by means of the fan-light.

Aberdeen School of Pharmacy.

At the meeting of the Governors of Robert Gordon's College on November 30, statistics were submitted showing that the fees collected during the past quarter amounted for the day-classes to 50*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* This is a decrease of 5*l.* odd compared with the corresponding date last year; but, on the other hand, the income from the evening (including Saturday) classes came to 18*l.* 18*s.*, or nearly 10*l.* more than at the corresponding date in the previous session. The Governors have agreed to charge a modified fee of 3*l.* 3*s.* in respect of the tuition in the Major course of a student who, while attending the school, passed the Minor examination. Permission has been granted to the Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association to hold their meetings in the College buildings during the current session, on the same conditions as formerly.

Glasgow.

Boots, Ltd., Sauchiehall Street, are now having a special Christmas sale.

Mr. J. Pottier, formerly with Messrs. J. McMillan, Ltd., St. George's Cross, has been appointed manager of Messrs. Frazer & Green's, Ltd., Buchanan Street establishment.

Intending competitors for the Kinninmont prize are reminded that, owing to the fixing of an earlier date for this competition, applications must be made before the end of the year. Names should be sent to Mr. W. L. Currie, 223 Byres Road, Dowanhill, Glasgow.

An Assault Charge.

At the Linlithgow Police Court, before Bailie Thomas, on November 28, Edward Spence, chemist and druggist, and Robert Christian Wilson Spence, medical student, were each fined 2*l.* or twenty-one days for having on July 24 last assaulted Dr. R. B. Thom, Linlithgow, at or near the courtyard between the properties of Dr. Thom and Mrs. C. M. Spence, chemist and druggist, by striking him on the back of the neck and on the back with their fists. The evidence was to the effect that when Dr. Thom was returning home from his professional duties, he dismounted from his motor-cycle, pushed it up a path to his back court, and while so doing the accused struck him—one on the neck and the other on the back. For the accused it was submitted that the witnesses who corroborated the doctor's evidence could not have seen the alleged assault from where they stood, an architect giving measurements in support of this defence. It is reported that the defendants are to appeal to the High Court of Justiciary.

THE OPIUM-DUTY in the Native States has been doubled, says Reuter from Singapore, and is now \$1,200 a chest.

TELEPHONE CARD.—Mr. W. Frost, the Bridge Pharmacy and the Broadwater Pharmacy, Worthing, in conjunction with two other local firms, issues a useful telephone card which he finds useful as an advertising medium. The card is 9½ by 5½, and is clipped under the spring-clip of the 'phone desk. On the right-hand side of the card are blanks for putting in the telephone numbers of such tradesmen as are most in request, and on the left information is given as to postal facilities offered to telephone subscribers. Unusual methods of sending express letters are mentioned which are often unknown to the general public.

French News.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

BERTHELOT MONUMENT.—The international subscription for a monument to Berthelot now amounts to about 1,000*l.* Several leading French pharmaceutical and chemical firms have subscribed.

THE NOBEL PRIZE.—It is announced in Paris that the Nobel prize for physics has been awarded to Professor Gabriel Lippmann, of the Paris Sorbonne. He was the first to discover a practical method for the direct photography of colours. M. Lippmann is the author of various well-known works on optics and thermodynamics.

THE GENEVA WHITE CROSS CONGRESS.—A number of members of the recent International Pure Food Congress held in Geneva gave a complimentary banquet in Paris last Saturday to M. Ruau, the French Minister of Agriculture, and MM. Bordas and Roux, the expert chemists, in recognition of the services they rendered to French commerce on that occasion.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF TOXICOLOGY.—On Wednesday evening, November 25, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the nomination of Professor Ogier to the post of director of the toxicological laboratory at the College of France, Paris, was celebrated there by a meeting of his friends and pupils, presided over by M. Armand Gautier, of the Institute, and Dr. Roux, director of the Pasteur Institute.

THE CIRCUMLOCUTION OFFICE is, of course, not an English speciality, as anyone who has had a Post Office order to "touch" in Paris can testify. The case of M. Mazurier is, however, worthy of mention. His establishment is entitled "Aux Parfumeries Réunies," Paris, and he occasionally receives orders made out in this name. It was a long and difficult matter to cash them, until an obliging postmaster advised him to have a rubber stamp made—the French post officer's suspicion of signatures and identity is only equalled by his childlike faith in the *bona fides* of a shilling spent on indiarubber letters. For six years all went well, till an order arrived made out to the "Magasins des Parfumeries Réunies." Payment was refused. After endless discussion M. Mazurier had a brilliant idea. "But if I post, this evening, two empty envelopes to the 'Magasins des Parfumeries Réunies,' and bring them to you, duly post-marked, to-morrow, will you pay me?" "Certainly," said the postmaster, "with pleasure." The explanation is that the French Post Office official holds that a post-marked envelope is legal evidence, and by this little piece of ingenuity the difficulty was got over.

FRENCH CUSTOMS TARIFF.—In its last monthly report the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris draws attention to the various changes in the French Customs tariff which are recommended by the Parliamentary Committee, and will in due course be submitted for approval to the Chamber of Deputies. The details available so far indicate sufficiently clearly that the proposed new classifications mean an increase of duty in almost every branch of trade, and even the most ardent Free-traders in the British Islands, who look at the matter from a purely business point of view, must experience some regret in this instance that the Foreign Office has no sufficiently powerful "lever" to use in the form of suggested retaliatory measures. British merchants in France feel that even a hint at a notable increase in the duties on, say, French wines imported into the British Islands would have a salutary effect, as the wine-growing districts in France will loudly protest. It is, of course, evident that the increased Customs tariff is not directed solely against the United Kingdom, but the vast trade done between the two nations (in 1907, exports to France, 862,000,000*f.*; imports from France, 1,374,000,000*f.*) renders the British interests of paramount importance. As regards the United States, Mr. Taft, the President-elect, has already given intimation of his intention to propose a revision of the United States tariff next spring, and American importers in France feel confident that this will not be lost sight of when the tariff comes up for discussion in the French Parliament. So far it is not definitely known how far the chemical and allied trades may be affected by the proposed changes in the French Customs tariff.

South African News.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

Cape Colony.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Lennon, Ltd., have removed their Kimberley branch from opposite the theatre to 64 Dutoitspan Road (opposite the library). The shop has been entirely refitted, and is one of the handsomest pharmacies in Kimberley.

CATALOGUE-DUTY.—The British Board of Trade have been informed by the Colonial Office that the Customs duties on trade-catalogues and price-lists can now be prepaid by means of stamps purchasable of the Agents-General in London. This applies to the Transvaal, Orange River Colony, Cape Colony, and Natal. A similar arrangement as regards the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Basutoland is under consideration.

"PATENT AND PROPRIETARY MEDICINES" DEFINED.—The "Government Gazette" for November 6 contains a memorandum from the Treasury Department of exceptional interest to chemists. After recapitulating the Stamp Act, No. 39 of 1908, and the regulations for its enforcement (details of which have already appeared), the memorandum proceeds to define the application of its provisions. These include the following:

1. "Retail selling value at the port of importation" is to be interpreted as prices ruling in Cape Town.

2. "Exposed for sale by retail" includes all patent or proprietary medicines which are kept in any shop or part of a shop not exclusively used for dispensing, but not including the sale of such medicine when dispensed on a *bona-fide* prescription by a registered medical practitioner or dentist, except in the case of original or unbroken packages, which must be stamped even if so prescribed.

3. "Patent or proprietary medicine" is to include any article intended or alleged to possess any curative, remedial, or preventive effect in any disease or deviation in health or function in man or animals (including birds or other livestock), whether for internal or external use or application.

4. In deciding whether any patent or proprietary medicine falls within the definition of such, account must be taken of any statements or claims made on any receptacle, label, wrapper, pamphlet, leaflet, or in any advertisement accompanying or applying to any such medicine.

5. The following are some of the examples of the classes of medicines falling under the above provisions and requirements to be stamped:

(a) Any medicine, including any Dutch medicine, professing or purporting to be the special manufacture of a particular person or firm, or manufactured in any special manner, as Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne, Bishop's Citrate of Caffeine, Dr. Samiel's Wonder Kroon Essence, Snratts' Chorea-pills, Bailey's Roup-pills, or Day, Son & Hewitt's Black Physic-balls.

It is, however, to be understood that where the name of a person is merely part of the common name of a medicine and which personal name does not indicate or imply any proprietary rights of any such person, no stamp will be required—as, e.g., Gregory's Powder or Parrish's Food; but if any such preparation is alleged to have been specifically prepared by some person or firm or in some particular manner—as, for example, "Grey's Gregory Powder," "Squire's Parrish's Food"—then the medicine must be stamped.

(b) Any food or nutritive substance alleging to possess or intended to exercise, *inter alia*, any medicinal effect, such as Scott's Emulsion, Carnrick's Beef Peptonoids, Carnrick's Soluble Food, Keeler's Malt Extract, and Sanatogen.

(c) Any medicine sold under any exclusive name or title, such as "Antiphlogistine," "Bynin," "Hazeline," "Laxoin," "Daisy Powder," "Pink Pills," "Rheumaticro," "Soamin."

(d) Any medicine sold under any specific description exclusively, such as "Soloid," "Tabloid," "Palatinoids," "Enule," "Wellcome," whether registered in this Colony or not.

(e) Any medicine bearing any descriptive mark as "Dartring Brand" (Burroughs & Wellcome), "Plough" (Allen & Hanbury), lion, net, and mouse (Powell), or any coat of arms or other device, whether registered in this Colony or not.

(f) Any preparation which, as part of its use or application, is alleged to possess some medical effect, such as a hair-restorer or medicated soap or medicated toilet-preparation, including washes, lotions, ointments, and powders—such, for example, as Harlene, Tatcho, Allen's Hair-

restorer, Capsuloids, Sulpholine Soap, Cuticura Soap, Calvert's Medical Soap, Dodd's Borax and Camphor Soap, Clarke's Skin-lotion, Hazeline Snow, Sozodont, Floriline.

Speaking generally, the Act is being well observed by chemists, although general dealers in many instances—possibly through ignorance—are not complying with it. There have been a few prosecutions of general dealers, but so far no convictions. In Queenstown, however, the dealers in patent and proprietary medicines are declining to submit to the provisions of the Act. They hold that no penalty is provided in the Act for a breach of the regulations. So far no test-case has been made, but it is stated on good authority that, owing to the omission, a prosecution could only secure a verdict for the value of the stamp not affixed.

Transvaal.

PERSONAL.—Mr. L. Tibbitt, manager of Messrs. Phillips & Co.'s pharmacy, Church Street, Pretoria, left on November 7 on a trip to England.—Mr. W. Easterbrook, Troyeville, Johannesburg, has returned from his shooting-trip in Central Africa.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Mr. V. R. Raywood, who has for some time been managing the Witwatersrand branch of Messrs. Corry & Co.'s pharmacy at Fordsburg, has purchased the business of Mr. Harry Richards, of Parys, Orange River Colony. Mr. Richards intends to trek northwards to that coming country Rhodesia.

EARLIER CLOSING.—The Shop-hours Act in the Transvaal has now been working for a month, and to no class has it been more welcome than the chemist, who in popular belief is also directory-expert, telephone-exchange, free doctor, and assistant photographer. A "Johannesburg Star" man finds that the chemists say the Act is working remarkably well. Objection was mostly feared from the suburban chemist, but, without exception, the representatives of the suburban trade have accepted the law, and are working under it with the happiest results. The chemists feel particularly grateful for the half-holiday and Sunday regulations, which in effect are giving hours of outdoor freedom to men who previously spent their time indoors awaiting customers. The Sunday regulations, by which which shops shall only open from 10 to 12 and from 5.30 to 7.30, are now rigidly adhered to without any public complaint. Fifty-four hours a week is the maximum period of employment for assistants. Another strong point is that many chemists and other shopkeepers are considering the necessity of introducing an annual holiday for assistants—two weeks in the year. Altogether the Act is regarded as a useful measure, but there are many who will not be satisfied until the annual holiday is made statutory.

Pharmaceutical Society of Rhodesia.

At the meeting held in Bulawayo last month, Mr. E. Blowett (late Hon. Secretary), of the Leopold gold-mine, near Gwelo, read some introductory notes on "Cyanide Practice in Rhodesia," which we give in abstract. A preliminary account of the crushing of the ore, and the extraction of the gold by flowing it, mixed with water, over plates amalgamated with mercury, preface the cyanide-treatment of the tailings or residues for unextracted gold. In the "wet" treatment the sand is separated by gravitation from the tailings by flowing through a V-shaped apparatus (*spitz-kasten*). The "contact" process of extraction resembles that of maceration and percolation in pharmacy, the separated tailings (water and sands) being treated in large tanks with the cyanide solution, which is agitated by stirrers or compressed air. The finest particles (slimes) from the *spitz-kasten* absorb water rapidly, but part with the solution slowly, and become impervious to ordinary leaching (percolation), so that they require special plant if their value justifies the cost of its erection. In the "dry" treatment the crushed ore may be treated directly, as in the Wanderer mine, near Selukwe, where the amalgamation-process is not used, or the sands are allowed to dry and are collected into a dump which is then treated as above. In the last instance the separation of slimes depends upon the diligence of the Kaffir who shovels the sands from each side of the flowing stream of tailings. For "precipitation" of the gold, the solution from the sand-tanks is passed over zinc shavings spread upon trays of sieves in an "extractor-box," a space being left at the bottom for accumulation of the gold precipitates. The lecturer then dealt with the various chemicals required in the process. The use of mercury, sodium, or potassium cyanide, and zinc shavings has already been indicated. Lime is the most economical alkali to

neutralise the acids that may exist in the ore. Commercial lead acetate is used for making the zinc-lead couple when copper is present in the tailings, and is also used to remove soluble sulphides, which prevent a maximum extraction of the gold. Potassium permanganate is utilised as an artificial oxidant for some refractory sands, and sulphuric acid for dissolving out the base metals (zinc, iron, copper, etc.) from the gold precipitates.

Australasian News.

New South Wales.

OPIMUM-SMOKING.—The Police Offences Bill was discussed on its second reading on October 15 and met with a great deal of hostile criticism. Ten Acts of Parliament are amended by it, and wishes were expressed that the different subjects had been dealt with separately. Mr. Holman objected to the punishment of the opium-smoker. Mr. Levy admitted that it looked drastic to make the mere smoking of opium under any circumstances a criminal offence. At the same time, experience of other countries shows there is no other way of putting down the sale of opium and the keeping of opium-dens. Other members spoke, but in spite of opposition the second reading was carried by forty-four votes to twenty-four.

New Zealand.

OBJECTIONABLE ADVERTISEMENTS.—Dr. Mason, Chief Health Officer, in his annual report, says that the recent amendment of the Postal Act continues effectually to bar those for whom it was intended, and in no wise interferes with traders in honest medicaments. The New Zealand Press is now, he states, one of the cleanest from a quack-medicine point of view, and the only offenders are some of the small country papers, which will soon drop these advertisements when the advertiser ceases to pay, as assuredly he will when he finds that his mail matter will not be carried through the post.

THE QUACKERY-PREVENTION BILL (N.Z.), as amended by the Legislative Council, was agreed to by the House of Representatives on October 10 and passed without further alteration. The Session has now come to an end and the Act comes into force. The effect of it will be that the Chief Officer of Health will have considerable powers to prevent articles being advertised in a way that seems to him misleading, but proprietors who are interfered with will have the right of appeal to the law courts. With anything like reasonable administration the Act ought not to interfere with any legitimate proprietary articles, but will stop the sale of those that are injurious to the public health.

Victoria.

THE DENTISTS BILL passed its second reading on October 13 in the Legislative Council. Mr. A. O. Sachse, who moved the second reading, remarked that when the first Dental Act was passed in November 1887 the Board was compelled to register all chemists, chemists' assistants, apprentices, and the like who could show that they were practising dentistry at the time of the passing of the Act, providing that they made application before March 1, 1888. The Government now sought to prohibit the practice of dentistry by unregistered persons. That did not apply to what is known as "dental work." Unregistered people do more than draw teeth; they administer anaesthetics which are dangerous in the hands of unskilled persons. At present there is no satisfactory definition of the word "dentistry," and the University authorities and the Dental Association found that one is necessary. This is the definition which would make it illegal for anyone to extract a tooth. The Committee stage in the Legislative Council was taken on October 20. The definition was not altered, and it reads:

"Dental surgery" or "dentistry" means the performance of any operation upon the natural teeth and their associate parts of a human subject or the construction or adjustment of artificial dentures for such subject. When Clause 12, allowing a medical practitioner to perform any dental operation in certain circumstances, was being discussed, Mr. W. J. Evans moved that the words "or chemist" be inserted after the word "practitioner." The amendment was negatived.

American Notes.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

TARIFF PROTECTION.—The Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives are engaged on a consideration of the Customs tariff. The hearing began on November 10 with a discussion of the drug and chemical schedule. Mr. Albert Plaut, of Lehn & Fink, New York, was examined in regard to the tariff on medicinal chemicals. The following summarises Mr. Plaut's evidence as reported in the "American Druggist":

The duties in this schedule are practically those of the tariff of 1835. During these twenty-five years conditions have changed very much, and what was good and proper for the trade then is not at present. The industry of the United States in medicinal chemicals has not prospered under this tariff, except in a financial way. There are to-day no more manufacturing chemists, and the number of articles they manufacture has not increased. Chemical science has made tremendous progress, but we have remained still, because, as the leader has told me, they sell all the goods they can produce. They sell them at a satisfactory price, and they permit other nations to go ahead and make inventions and encourage the industry. If the 25 per cent. were to be reduced to 15 per cent.—that is the purpose of my argument—it would prevent the domestic manufacturers from fixing an arbitrary price on their product as they do now; and with a 15 per cent. rate of duty there would still be more than an ample allowance for any difference in the rate of wages or in the cost of appliances and apparatus. It would prevent them from arbitrarily fixing their prices, which in too many cases are extortionate, and in many cases their prices have no direct bearing on the cost of production. For instance, we are manufacturers of bismuth and other salts. When bismuth metal sold at 5s. a pound, the price of the subnitrate in this country was \$2. To-day bismuth metal sells at 6s. 6d.; and because of a disagreement, and trade work, the price is down to \$1.50. I cite that merely to illustrate that the duty of 25 per cent. is such that they can do as they please, and the trade, or a large proportion of it—those of my persuasion, my political persuasion—chafe under the tyranny of the manufacturers of pharmaceutical chemicals. . . . The labour element, the cost of wages in a chemical factory, is very small as compared with the cost of the raw material. We have, in the present tariff schedule, specific duties which are abnormal and prohibitive in most instances, and these articles could also, in my opinion, be put in the same general class. I mention boracic acid, which pays 5c. per lb. duty, equal to about 70 per cent. Citric acid, 7c. per lb. duty; salicylic acid, 10c. per lb. duty. I do not know why that was ever put in. To the best of my knowledge, there is none made here. Tannic acid, 50c. per lb. duty. That was quite correct as long as we did not have denatured alcohol, which can now be used in the manufacture of tannic acid. The price of tannic acid to-day is 58c. Tannic acid, or tannin, now pays a duty of 50c. per lb., and the product sells at 58c. per lb. Gallic acid, 10 per cent. Tartaric acid, 8c. per lb. Borax, 5c. per lb., which is a duty of about 120 per cent. Refined camphor, 6c. per lb. Chloroform, 20c. per lb. That is an absurdity. Chloroform sells in this market to-day at 25c. per lb. Iodoform, \$1 per lb. Magnesia carbonate, 3c. per lb., and it sells at that price. Formerly these duties were, to a great extent, justified, because alcohol had been used in their production, while that is no longer the case. Santonin, and all salts thereof, \$1 per lb., yet for the past two years not a pound has been made in the United States. Strychnia, or strychnine, and all salts thereof, 30c. per oz. We sell American strychnine, delivered in London, Canada, or South Africa and Australia at 32c. per oz., and yet we pay 55c. per oz. to some American manufacturers at the present time for use in our country. In other words, this entire schedule is antiquated, not up to date. It is not fair, it is not just, and it is oppressive to the consumer; and the consumer, in most instances, means the retail druggist.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

SOAP TRUST ACTION.

IN the first division of the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on November 30, a step further was taken in the action by Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Glasgow, against the "Daily Record," Glasgow, Ltd., and the Associated Newspapers, Ltd., London, for 25,000*l.* damages for slander in each case. The Lord President, referring to the issues, said they seemed to him to be exceedingly faulty, because, to a great extent, they set forth matters which he did not think were slanderous at all. As to the articles published he said the contents obviously showed a very thin case against the defenders. The judgment of the Court was that it was a case which they would not feel justified in removing entirely from a jury, and that it would be best tried by the following issue:

Whether the statements therein contained are in whole or in part of, and concerning the pursuers, and falsely and calumniously represent that the pursuers, by themselves or in company with others, had been guilty of deceiving the public and traders by dishonest methods and practices in business, to the loss, injury, and damage of pursuer.

The view of the Court was that unless the true meaning of the articles could be brought up to actual dishonesty there was no slanderous matter in them.

ELEPHANT TRADE-MARK.

ON December 1, in the Dublin Rolls Court, the Master of the Rolls heard an application in an action of the Grosvenor Chemical Co. against James Greenfield (trading as Jas. C. Allardice & Co.).

Mr. Megaw, B.L., on behalf of the plaintiffs, applied for particulars of the grounds of the defendants' objection to the validity of plaintiffs' trade-mark. Plaintiffs and defendants were soap-makers in Belfast. Plaintiffs use the word "elephant" in regard to their soap, part of their trade-mark being a device like an elephant. Defendants' trade-mark, registered many years ago, was the word "Jumbo," and in May last they used the word "Jumbo" with the representation of an elephant. The defendants denied that the plaintiffs' was a trade-mark and claimed that, having registered the word "Jumbo," they were fully entitled to use the figure of an elephant.

The Master of the Rolls said the plaintiffs had registered their trade-mark in respect of goods sold by them—the word "elephant" and a representation of an elephant. The defendants said: "We admit plaintiffs are registered proprietors of an alleged trade-mark, but deny that it is one at all." One was entitled to know what was meant by that defence. Lord Justice Romer, in a case of this kind, said that when defendants pleaded plaintiffs' trade-mark was invalid they must give some particulars of its invalidity.

His Lordship made an order for the particulars asked for to be furnished within ten days, but he made no order against the defendants as to costs.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

POLICE PROSECUTION.

AT Ryde Borough Bench on November 30, before the Mayor (Mr. M. Maybrick, J.P.) and a full Bench of Magistrates, Tenison Norman Smith, chemist and druggist, St. Thomas's Square, pleaded guilty to selling a packet of vermin-killer containing strychnine without making an entry in a book kept for the purpose, contrary to the provisions of Section 17 of the Act.—Inspector Murray, R.S.P.C.A., said when he called on the defendant on November 17 he told him he had not sold any strychnine or vermin-killer during the past two weeks. Afterwards he told defendant that Mr. Marlow, jun., said he purchased a shilling packet of vermin-killer on the previous Friday. Mr. Smith said he could not remember, and there was no entry in the poison-book of the transaction.—Mr. E. W. Pollard, B.Sc., analyst, stated that the remaining portion of the packet handed to him contained 9.4 per cent. of strychnine. Weighing, as it did, 48 grains, it would contain rather more than 4½ grains of strychnine, or sufficient to kill two or three persons.—Chief Constable Greenstreet said it was not suggested that there was any wilful intention on the part of Mr. Smith to evade the law.—Mr. Smith now

stated that he was chatting with Mr. Marlow, and quite forgot to ask him to sign the book.—The Mayor said the Magistrates quite believed he had no desire to disobey the law, and imposed a fine of 5*s.*, with 1*l.* 13*s.* costs.

Dentists Act.

PAINLESS EXTRACTIONS.

AT the West Ham Police Court on December 2, Arthur W. Scott, of 3 Woodgrange Road, Forest Gate, was summoned, on the information of George Read Matland, dentist, Finsbury Pavement, for using, issuing, and publishing cards which implied that he was specially qualified to practise dentistry, although not being registered as a dentist, and not being a qualified medical practitioner. The defendant admitted the offence.

Mr. J. B. Sorrell, who prosecuted, said that the proceedings were taken under Section 3 of the Dentists Act, and the Medical Act, 1886. He quoted the recent decision in *Barnes v. Brown*, and explained that defendant issued cards which read:

Arthur W. Scott, high-class English and American artificial teeth. Teeth scaled and stopped. Painless extractions. Hours 9 till 9.

He also printed a list of fees. Mr. Sorrell also mentioned *Panhouse v. Brown*, "the one-man company case," and said that that case also covered the offence committed by the defendant. In mitigation, the defendant said that he did a lot of business for the trade. He admitted that he was not registered, but he was a mechanical dentist, and it seemed very hard to him that he was not allowed to earn a living as a mechanical dentist without being registered.

Mr. Gillespie: It is obvious that you are not entitled to act as a dentist without being registered. I consider that I am bound by the case of *Barnes v. Brown*, and I shall bind myself still further and inflict the same penalty. There will be a fine of 1*l.*, and 3*s.* costs.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

OLIVE OIL.

AT Lambeth Police Court on November 26, before Mr. Cecil Chapman, Horace Fidge, of Southwark Street, London, S.E., was summoned for selling, at Queen's Road, Peckham, S.E., olive oil containing 50 per cent. of cotton-seed oil. Mr. F. W. Beck, who defended, pleaded a warranty. It was shown that the article was supplied in a bottle ready wrapped, evidently as received from the wholesale dealers. The label guaranteed the contents genuine. Mr. Beck stated that the wholesale firm had shown him the invoice from the firm who had supplied them, under which the oil was guaranteed as pure olive oil. The Magistrate dismissed the summons.

County Court Cases.

ALLEGED ARSENICAL POISONING.

IN the Shoreditch County Court, this week, before Deputy-Judge Hodges, Mrs. Louisa Davey, 5a Church Path, Mare Street, Hackney, sued Messrs. Lewis Berger & Sons, of Morning Lane, Homerton, N.E., to recover, under the Workmen's Compensation Act 1906, 300*l.* damages for the loss of her husband. It appeared that the deceased man had been employed by defendants for about six years, occupied in mixing paints, and in the summer time did overtime mixing green paint containing arsenite of copper. He used to work at this job four hours every evening and was then allowed half an hour to wash himself thoroughly. To the results of his occupation his death was attributed by the plaintiff. Evidence in support of this was given by Dr. G. C. Slimon (who treated deceased for arsenical poisoning). For the defence Mr. Seiplein (the general superintendent to the defendants), Dr. Bertram Goddard, Dr. Alexander Winter Blyth, Dr. East, and Dr. Daley (factory certifying surgeon to the Home Office for forty years and had never known of a case of arsenic poisoning under such conditions) gave evidence, and the Deputy-Judge said that in face of the medical evidence he could not reasonably come to the conclusion that the man's death was due to arsenical poisoning, although apparently it was mysterious, as it was due to some irritant, and under the circumstances there would have to be judgment for the respondents. Judgment was entered accordingly.

A DRAIN-DIGGING TENDER.

At Bow County Court on December 1, before Judge Smyly, K.C., Ernest Sidney Hammerton, builder, Upton Park, brought an action to recover 20*l.* from Mr. B. Abelson, chemist and druggist, of East India Dock Road, Poplar. The plaintiff's case was that he contracted to do some work for Mr. Abelson, part of which consisted of taking up a drain which was said to be only 2 ft. 6 in. below the surface. Plaintiff dug down to this depth, but when he was unable to find the drain he reported the fact to Mr. Cleeve, the defendant's surveyor. Plaintiff asked this gentleman for a written order to do the work, but the latter, while refusing to give it, suggested that plaintiff should go on with the work. This he did, and had to dig down 7 ft. before finding the drain, to which he had to attach a pipe from the house. While this was being done a surveyor of the L.C.C. came on the scene and insisted that the trench should be filled in with concrete, as it had affected the foundations of the house, otherwise the place would be condemned. Plaintiff contended that this work had cost him 20*l.* over the contract price, and he therefore claimed for that amount. For the defendant it was contended that the plaintiff had shown carelessness in not verifying the depth of the drain on the proper plan before he gave the estimate and commenced the work. He should have made inquiries about the depth of the drain before starting the work, but this he did not do. After a hearing lasting several hours, judgment was given for the plaintiff, with costs.

INSECT OR LIQUORICE POWDER?

THE case of Crawford *v.* Parslow came before Judge Smyly at the Bow County Court on December 1. The plaintiff sued the defendant, a Poplar oil and colour merchant, for 30*l.* as compensation for pain and discomfort alleged to have been caused by taking insect-powder supplied to her at defendant's shop in place of compound liquorice-powder.

Defendant stated that he bought insect-powder wholesale from Aldridge's, and it was kept in a large jar on the counter labelled "Parslow's Insect Powder." He also sold liquorice-powder in packets, but it was never sold from a jar. Arthur Whitburn, defendant's manager, said that plaintiff came into the shop and asked for a pennyworth of "powder." She had her hand over her mouth and spoke indistinctly. The insect-powder jar was in front of her and he said: "Do you want insect-powder?" She, with her hand still over her mouth, said something which sounded like "Ocm." He said it was 1½*d.* per oz., but she said one pennyworth would be enough. Plaintiff, who said she was nearly mad with neuralgia, was served with this and went away. Later on she returned and said: "You have served me with insect-powder, and I have drunk some." She was asked whether she did not know the difference between the powders, and replied: "Yes, I noticed it was bitter and spat it out." He told her the quantity she had taken would not hurt her and gave her sixpence for some brandy. Next day a note was brought to him to the effect that plaintiff had been very sick during the night and had no money to pay for a doctor. He sent her one shilling for that purpose. Afterwards he took some of the powder himself, and it did him no harm.

After other evidence his Honour reserved judgment.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

WEST BIRMINGHAM DRUG CO.—A meeting of the creditors was held at the offices of Mr. W. H. Stoddard, solicitor, Cherry Street, on November 20. The company passed a resolution for voluntary winding up on November 9. It was formed in June 1907, and had been carried on at a loss, and the statement of affairs showed a deficiency of 154*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* The matter was left in the hands of Mr. J. W. Massey, the liquidator, to wind up the business.

Re JOHN PRICE, 43 Tontine Street, Folkestone, Chemist and Druggist.—The statement of affairs issued by the Official Receiver shows liabilities amounting to 214*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*; assets, 196*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*; deficiency, 17*l.* 15*s.* The assets include: Stock-in-trade, fittings, etc., 175*l.*; furniture 20*l.*; cash in hand 12*s.*; and book-debts 2*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* The causes of failure are stated to be "keen competition, outlay on improvements to premises, and heavy expenses." The debtor carried on business for sixteen years at Sunbury-on-Thames, and disposed of it in

February 1905 for 190*l.*, when he purchased his present business for 130*l.* He had, in addition, a further sum of 370*l.*, which he used as capital. Of this 200*l.* was borrowed. The debtor spent a considerable amount in further equipping and altering the premises, but from the commencement the business has not been a success. Two shops of a similar nature were opened in the vicinity, and competition had been very keen. During the past two years his affairs financially have become more involved.

Re TIBERTIUS TOWNLEY, 15 Station Road, Hadfield, described as Chemist and Druggist.—At Ashton-under-Lyne Bankruptcy Court, last week, this debtor was examined on accounts showing gross liabilities amounting to 299*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*, unsecured liabilities 274*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*, assets 5*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, and a deficiency of 268*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* Debtor attributes his failure to having insufficient capital. He commenced business at Hadfield in November 1907, with a capital of 70*l.*, 60*l.* of which he borrowed from a moneylender. He agreed to pay 100*l.* for the business, which he had been managing for the previous three months. He paid 60*l.* down, and had since paid another 20*l.* Prior to this for four years he was an assistant at Shanghai. He first became aware of his insolvency in July last, and he had contracted debts since then in the hope that the business would improve in the winter. The examination was closed.

Re THOMAS BELVOIR, Manufacturer of Athletic Appliances and Toilette Requisites.—At the London Bankruptcy Court last week, before Mr. Registrar Gifford, the public examination of this debtor took place on returns which show liabilities 1,468*l.* 1*s.*, of which 739*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* is expected to rank against assets valued at 761*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* The debtor stated that he had been concerned in the manufacture of "Culto," a Japanese magic nail-polish. His wife bought the recipe and a quantity of tubes for 25*l.*, her own money. She had private means. The business was carried on under the name of Thos. Belvoir & Co. All his creditors knew that the polish was his wife's property. He had never obtained credit on the strength of the business being worth 700*l.* a year. The material from which "Culto" was manufactured was obtained from wholesale druggists, and it was made up in a shed in their garden. Debtor attributed his failure to inability to dispose of at a fair price his patented appliances for physical exercise. The examination was concluded.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

CLIFFORD, I., CLIFFORD, R. E., and PHILLIPS, H. A., Grosvenor Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W., dentists, under the style of Isidore Clifford.

GIBBINS, H. B., and VON BERGEN, C. W., Leatherhead and Ashted, Surrey, medical practitioners, under the style of Von Bergen & Gibbins.

SAUNDERS, W. L. K., and BROOKS, T. B., Manchester, manufacturing chemists, under the style of Keith Saunders & Co.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

LOVITT, ROBERT JAMES, Stanwell, near Staines, Middlesex, late Harley Street, London, W., and Goswell Road, London, E.C., licentiate in dental surgery.

WAKEHAM, FRANK, Gulval, Cornwall, aerated-water manufacturer.

Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C. & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.) will be esteemed.

129/62. Who makes or supplies Calsulactol?

126/56. Makers of Alabastrine, a toilet-preparation.

131/30. Maker of poison-bottle, registered number 334871.

106/67. Present address of the maker of Premier Marking-ink.

130/22. Who are the makers of a dollar-size Levy's Lablache face-powder?

125/31. Where can Cremoid, a dust-layer, be obtained, or who are the makers?

New Companies and Company News.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907.

POCKET SYPHONS, LTD.—Capital 75,000*l.* Registered in Guernsey on September 5, 1908. British address, Finsbury Pavement House, E.C., where P. Paspatis is authorised to accept service.

BOVINE, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 500*l.* Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in horse and cattle food, drugs, etc. Registered office, Jacob Street, Bermondsey, S.E.

CLEANALL (1908), LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 10,000*l.* Objects: To acquire the business of Cleanall, Ltd. The first directors are G. F. Talbot, W. N. Sagar-Musgrave, and V. Talbot. Registered office, 17 Tower Royal, Cannon Street, E.C.

BERT METTHAM & CO., LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 1,500*l.* Objects: To acquire the business carried on by Bert Mettham & Co., mineral-water manufacturers. The first directors are W. J. Foxall and F. B. Oakes. Registered office, 85 Union Street, Mansfield, Notts.

CHAMPION BOTTLE SEAL CO., LTD.—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 10,000*l.* Objects: To acquire from Jacob Hermann, 22 Montgomerie Road, Scotstoun, Glasgow, the benefit of certain inventions relating to a patented bottle seal, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of bottle seals. The first directors are W. Stewart, D. Forbes, J. MacCormack, and J. Hermann. Registered office, 90 Mitchell Street, Glasgow.

NATIONAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 1,000*l.* Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of a manufacturer and vendor of proprietary medicines, surgical or mechanical instruments and appliances, drugs, etc., carried on by G. F. Gaul at Great Clowes Street, Higher Broughton, as the "National College of Health." The first directors are G. F. Gaul and J. L. Warren. Registered office, 208 Great Clowes Street, Higher Broughton, Manchester.

ILFORD, LTD.—The twelfth ordinary general meeting was held at Winchester House, London, E.C., on December 1. Colonel Ivor Phillips, M.P., presiding. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that last year was an unfortunate one, but this year they have not only improved the position of the goodwill and investments, but have paid a larger dividend, and now have the satisfaction of seeing the market value of their property very considerably improved. The sales had shown a satisfactory increase although competition shows no signs of slackening.—Major F. W. Evatt and Mr. J. Kemp-Welch were re-elected directors.

LEWIS & BURROWS, LTD.—The annual meeting was held at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C., on November 27. Alderman J. R. Brough presiding over an attendance of about twenty shareholders. After commenting upon the leading difficulties of the year, the Chairman stated that the diminution in the sales was accounted for by the fact that, although they were not losing customers, the average amount of each bill has been reduced, showing that the purchasing-power of the people is for the time being less. Mr. J. K. Matterson seconded, and in the discussion which followed Mr. Badman said the shareholders were to be sympathised with rather than congratulated on such a poor result. As an original shareholder, many of whose shares had cost him par, he regarded a return of 3 per cent. as altogether inadequate. From time to time he had urged the board to close those shops which were not only not earning a profit, but were robbing the other shops of the honest results of their labours. He was pleased to see that the Surbiton branch had been closed, and would like to know how much money had been lost on the venture. He maintained that if the shops that did not pay were closed it would help the company to pay a better dividend. Dr. Moody, in criticising one or two items in the balance-sheet, said that the amount under the head of sundry creditors was nearly 7,000*l.*, and it appeared to him desirable that the company should pay cash for what it bought. He also suggested that rather than pay out too much money in dividends something should be done to reduce the item of leasehold premises and goodwill (43,712*l.*). The Chairman, in reply, admitted that 3 per cent. was not the sort of dividend they would all like to see, but they had to take into account the competition which had sprung up since the inception of the company. Two years ago they paid only 1½ per cent. on the ordinary shares, last year they paid 3 per cent., and this year they were able again to pay 3 per cent. The question of closing shops was really one of management, they being largely dependent on the good service of managers. There were always a certain number of weak managers, and if the directors closed a shop immediately it showed a loss upon a

year's working they would make a grave mistake. The report as given in our last issue was adopted. Mr. J. K. Matterson, retiring director, was re-elected.

CAMWAL, LTD.—The annual general meeting of shareholders was held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford Street, W., on December 1. Mr. Horace Davenport, chairman of directors, presiding over a small attendance. In moving the adoption of the report (*C. & D.*, November 28, p. 819) the Chairman said they would naturally require some reason as to why profits had fallen off, but he could assure them that the company worked harder than they did even in their most prosperous days. There had been no falling-off in their efforts, but rather in the results of those efforts. The remarkable success which the company had for several successive years, as the result of fine weather and good trade, made people begin to think it was going to last for ever; but other firms, noticing the company's prosperity, took a hand in the game, the consequence being that competition has become worse and worse. Endeavours have been made to get people to take a rational view in regard to the maintenance of prices, but they had not been successful. He hoped wiser and saner ideas would prevail in the future, failing which it would mean that those who were strong—like Camwal—would eventually benefit by the weeding-out of their weaker competitors, many of whom had entered the business with the wild idea of quickly making a fortune. The Chairman alluded to the loss the company had sustained by the death of Mr. J. H. Wilson, their Harrogate director, who had for so many years worked that branch with conspicuous success. At present they had nobody in view to fill Mr. Wilson's place, as the position required a man of exceptional tact and business capacity, and a knowledge of the mineral-water business. Finally, he mentioned that the Camwal waters had received a certificate from the Medical Officer of Health, who, after personal inspection of the works and plant, had expressed himself as highly satisfied. Mr. Brough seconded the motion, and in the short discussion which ensued a shareholder wanted to know if there had been any serious damage as the result of the fire, in reply to which the Chairman explained that as yet no settlement had been effected with the insurance company, so they could say little about it in the report. It was very difficult stock for the insurance company to value. Camwal had put in a claim for a large amount on syphons which, although subjected to great heat, looked all right. These the insurance company are putting to the highest possible test, and will award what they consider to be a right and proper amount. The company would suffer no loss, as there was no dispute as to the amount on buildings and damage to plant, the question of syphons being still in abeyance. The motion was carried *n.c.m.* Mr. Horace Davenport was re-elected chairman of the Board, and the auditors in London, Leeds, Birmingham, Bristol, and Manchester were reappointed. After a short interval the meeting resolved itself into an extraordinary general meeting for the purpose of passing a resolution recommending that an alteration be made in the memorandum of association, whereby the company may be enabled to assist their customers by delivering goods direct and collecting the money in the name of the company. The resolution was as follows:

That the provisions of the memorandum of association of the company with regard to the company's objects be altered by striking out the restriction imposed on the objects of the company and substituting the following words occurring in Clause 3 (*c*) of such memorandum of association—namely, "To manufacture, manipulate, render merchantable, and purchase aerated and mineral waters of all kinds, whether artificial or natural, and all materials and ingredients necessary or convenient for the manufacture, manipulation, rendering merchantable, and dealing in such waters, and to sell, deal in, and supply such waters, materials, and ingredients."

In moving the resolution the Chairman said it was still their intention to keep the sale of Camwal waters as much as possible in the hands of chemists, and they were going to assist them in obtaining more trade. In certain districts around London the trade had been absolutely swept out of the hands of chemists, but they thought some of it could be brought back by delivering for their customers and collecting the money, allowing the chemist a small commission on the sales. At present they did not propose to undertake any deliveries in the country. Mr. Brough seconded, and after a short discussion, during which the solicitor for Camwal stated that the alteration had been submitted to a well-known company counsel, it was passed unanimously.

MORTGAGES AND CHARGES.—The following have been registered: *Alkalis, Ltd.*, mineral-water manufacturers, Richmond. 500*l.* debentures.—*Sadler & Co., Ltd.*, manufacturing chemists, Middlesbrough. 200*l.* debentures.—*Wm. Alfred Jones "Throatlets," Ltd.*, Liverpool. Debentures 300*l.*—*E. P. Shaw & Co., Ltd.*, chemists, Wakefield. Mortgage debentures, 200*l.*—*Marshall & Co., Ltd.*, oil merchants, Mossley. Mortgage to secure all moneys due or to become due to the Union Bank of Manchester, Ltd., up to 800*l.*

Births.

KEANE.—At Tubberboice Cottage, Drogheda, on November 20, the wife of Michael S. Keane, registered druggist, of a daughter.

NORTH.—At 6 Little Street, Cape Town, on November 1, the wife of H. North, chemist and druggist, of a son.

SNOOK.—At Longwood, Bath, on November 22, the wife of Francis Snook, of a daughter.

Deaths.

DENT.—At Oulton Broad last week, Mr. John Wallace Dent, chemist and druggist, The Pharmacy, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, aged thirty-seven.

FLUX.—At Waterton, Cirencester, on November 25, Mr. William Flux, Emeritus Solicitor to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, aged eighty. Mr. Flux up to his retirement in 1905 had been solicitor to the Pharmaceutical Society for forty-five years. He took a leading part in the negotiations which resulted in the passing of the Pharmacy Act, 1868. At the annual dinner of the Society in 1905 Mr. Flux recalled some of the early incidents in the history of the Society. He then stated that the most serious section of the Act—the seventeenth—was not in the original as drafted by the Pharmaceutical Society, but was drawn up by Dr. John Simon, then medical officer to the Privy Council. It was not liked by chemists at that time, and Mr. Flux gave the impression that it gives chemists now all the trouble they suffer; but when it was introduced he had to impress upon those who were getting the Bill through that whatever they did they must not touch Dr. Simon's clause. Mr. Flux also recalled the fact that he was deputed by the Council to visit Ireland in order to persuade pharmacists there to join Great Britain, but they declined. He was also largely instrumental in obtaining the exemption from jury-service which pharmaceutical chemists enjoy. He was admitted a solicitor in 1857, and became in time head of the firm now known as Messrs. Flux, Thompson & Quarrell, 3 East India Avenue, London, E.C. He had filled the principal offices in the Dyers' Company, of which he was the oldest member, and was at one time Almoner of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Mr. Flux was also connected with the ancient Cirencester Society in London, and, in conjunction with the late Mr. Wilfred Cripps, between thirty and forty years ago rescued for the benefit of this Society and its philanthropic purposes a considerable present income, and a still more valuable reversionary interest, to which it was entitled under the will of an old Cirencester man, John Edmonds by name, and of which it had been deprived for a century and a half. Mr. Flux was twice married, and is survived by three sons and two daughters of his first marriage and by his second wife. One of his sons, Dr. G. B. Flux, is an authority on anaesthesia; while another, Mr. C. W. L. Flux, is a solicitor. Mr. Flux was a native of Cirencester, and when he retired from practice he built a residence on an estate at Hornhill, which he had purchased some twenty years previously, and devoted himself to farming and sheep-breeding. Mr. Flux's tall, erect figure will be familiar to those who attended the annual meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society some years ago; he was always to be found on the left of the President, in case any legal points were raised in the course of the meeting. Mr. Flux was buried at Ampney on November 28.

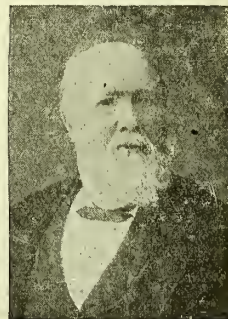
GOSSEP.—At 333 Norton Way, Letchworth, on November 10, Mr. Geo. Kennington Gossep, chemist and druggist, formerly of Grimsby, and 65 New North Road, London.

GRIFFIN.—At Ealing, on November 20, Mr. William John Griffin, chemist and druggist, aged thirty-five.

MARLAR.—At Halstead, on November 29, Mr. John Marlar, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-three. Mr. Marlar had been in business as a chemist and dentist at High Street, Halstead, for over fifty years. He was warden at the parish church for nineteen years. He had also served on the old Local and Burial Boards, and was a representative to the Central Council. Mr. Marlar leaves an only son, Mr. J. F. Marlar, chemist and druggist, North Hill, Colchester.

OWEN.—At Wickford, Essex, Mr. John Owen, chemist and druggist, aged fifty-three. Mr. Owen had suffered from consumption for several months. He was formerly in business at Holloway, London, N.

ROBERTSON.—At Cedar Cottage, Abbey Road, Scone, on November 25, Dr. Andrew Malloch Robertson, chemist and druggist, aged eighty-two. Dr. Robertson was the "grand old man" of Glasgow pharmacy, and the last survivor of several interesting events and associations. For example, when Jacob Bell visited Glasgow on April 1, 1853, and the chemists of the city entertained him to breakfast, Dr. Robertson was there. He was the only surviving original member of the Glasgow Golf Club, which was founded sixty years ago, and he went through all the phases of the popularising of golf, meeting the younger generation of players on a level until he was an octogenarian; and when medical golfers in Glasgow founded a club of their own a few years ago they made Dr. Robertson their first captain. This was as much a tribute to his skill as a player as it was to his venerable associations with the game. The death of such a man naturally calls up interesting recollections, and having enjoyed several conversations with him, the writer persuaded him a few years ago to jot down some points in his career, which we now give, supplementing them with information from his old apprentice, Mr. W. L. Currie. Dr. Robertson was born in Perth in 1827, and there also he was educated. In 1842 he was indentured as an apprentice to the art and mystery of a chemist and druggist to Mr. D. Fleming, surgeon, Perth. His training must have been thorough, for five years later, when he went as an assistant to Mr. John Robertson, wholesale and retail chemist, 84 Queen Street, Glasgow, one of the first things he had to do was to make two pints of chloroform. This was the first made in the shop—perhaps the first made in Glasgow—and one of the effects it had upon the lad was a determination to fit himself better by scientific education for his occupation. That he did by evening study. He remained with Mr. Robertson three years, then, in 1850, he took over a small business, Anderston Apothecaries' Hall, which had been started at 2 Washington Street in 1830, and in 1850 was owned by Dr. Joshua Paterson, who continued to "give attendance at the Consulting Room in connection with the Hall" after he disposed of the business to young Robertson. It was doing only three or four pounds a week. At the end of the first year young Robertson found the net profits to be 22l. 10s., at the end of the second 68l., and the third yielded 120l. Then he married, most happily. He became a member of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1853, but desired to become a pharmaceutical chemist by examination, and with this object entered the Glasgow University medical classes in 1855; but as the sessions passed he decided to take a medical qualification, and accordingly passed the Licence examinations of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, and was registered in 1860. Two years before he had dropped his membership of the Society, and when he wanted to resume it he was debarred by Section 11 of the 1852 Act, a fact which he deplored and resented. Dr. Robertson built up a good medical practice, but he never lost touch with pharmacy, and was keenly alive to pharmaceutical advancements. Thus in 1887, having mastered the art of sugar-coating pills, he established the Scottish Sugar-coated Pill Co. at 2 Washington Street, a business in which he was distinctly successful. He took a keen interest in local pharmaceutical affairs, and joined the Glasgow Chemists' and Druggists' Association when it was founded in 1854, becoming its President in 1864-6. He was Honorary President of the present Association. When that body honoured his old apprentice, Mr. W. L. Currie, on March 2, 1906, by a dinner and gift of silver plate, Dr. Robertson was present. That was his last public appearance in connection with pharmacy. As a pharmacist he was always delighted in his work, and imbued his assistants and apprentices with the



same feeling, while he further encouraged them to enlarge their ideas of the craft by getting them to join the local Association, paying the first year's subscription. He had been living in retirement at Scone for some time, and his death was due to old age. The funeral took place at Greyfriars Burying Ground, Perth.

THACKER.—At Wanstead, on November 19, Mr. William Thacker, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-six.

Trade Notes.

PARFUMERIE L. T. PIVER.—Through an oversight, for which Messrs. L. T. Piver & Co. were in no way responsible, the advertisement of that firm in our issue of November 21 was one which had been deleted, as it referred to the Franco-British Exhibition. The advertisement which should have occupied the space is inserted in the present issue.

ZENOBIA SPECIALITIES.—Mr. W. F. Charles, Loughborough, sends a copy of his illustrated wholesale price-list of Zenobia perfumes and specialities. The perfumes (packed and in bulk), soaps, sachets, toilet-powders, floral pomades, and other specialities of the series are clearly illustrated, with concise details of prices. In addition, hints on showing and keeping perfumes are given, as also particulars of the "Zenobia" perfume trial-stand for free testing by the customer. A seasonable line is the "Zenobia" registered "Souvenir and Christmas Greeting Sachets," illustrated in the inset, several tasteful designs being portrayed. The usual lines of sachets are also very fully represented. The list will be forwarded to any chemist on application.

"BRITISH JOURNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ALMANAC."—On December 1 this annual was published. The 1909 edition is on the lines of former issues of recent years. It contains a long article on reflex cameras, followed by an epitome of progress during the year. The latter is a valuable feature of the book and is divided into the following sections: (1) general, (2) apparatus and equipment, (3) various subjects, (4) negative-processes, (5) printing-processes, (6) colour-photography. Another feature of the literary portion is the section containing formulae for photographic processes, which occupies 125 pages and is probably the section that photographic chemists find the most useful for reference. The almanac is published at 1s., and contains altogether 1,336 pages, these including the advertisements.

MESSRS. G. B. KENT & SONS, LTD., 75 Farringdon Road, London, E.C., have just purchased the stock and goodwill of the old-established brush and painting-brush business of Messrs. Gawdery & Son, 8 George Street, Minories, E.C., and are transferring the manufacture of Messrs. Gawdery's patterns and orders to their own factories. It is also announced that Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons are, early in 1909, opening a painting-brush factory in Australia. Mr. Arthur Kent, chairman of the company, has already sailed in the P. & O. s.s. *Arabia* for Bombay, and, after spending a month in India, will proceed to Australia, and superintend the arrangements of the new factory in Melbourne. Some of the staff and the manager of the branch are sailing at the end of December to meet Mr. Kent on his arrival in Melbourne.

CALIFORNIAN SYRUP OF FIGS.—Messrs. Fassett & Johnson, Snowhill, London, E.C., the agents for this preparation in Great Britain and its Colonies, insert in this issue an old advertisement which appeared in medical journals some years ago, and which sets forth the composition of the syrup. They desire to emphasise the fact that there is not a secret about the active constituents of the remedy, and it will be obvious to pharmacists that statements which have been circulated as to the bearing of the U.S.A. Food and Drugs Act upon the American title of the preparation are somewhat highly coloured. The requirements of that Act had been anticipated years ago in the advertisement which is reprinted in this issue, and from which it appears that the syrup contains nothing (apart from Californian figs and senna) except menstrua which are necessary for the presentation of the active principles in a fluid form.

PERFORATED COURT PLASTER.—We briefly referred in the Summer number (p. 125) to the new perforated court

plaster which is being placed on the market by Messrs. Thomas Christy & Co., 4, 10, and 12 Old Swan Lane, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C. We mention the matter again on account of the useful little counter-stand which is sent out with each dozen packets of the plaster. This stand is of aluminium, lettered in blue, and has on the back a pocket, in which the packets are stored. A sample sheet of the perforated plaster is stuck on the face of the stand. Most people are accustomed to carrying with them a packet of court plaster in case of emergency. This perforated plaster can consequently be made a ready selling line to the chemist who shows it on the counter, for which purpose the elegant aluminium stand is particularly applicable. The plaster yields a good profit to the retailer.

A NOVEL OFFER.—The Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Ltd., 4 Lloyd's Avenue, London, E.C., are offering to send a few of their customers on a voyage of 14,000 miles to their cattle-farms in South America and back, to enable them to see for themselves the gigantic organisation which the makers of Oxo have built up during the past forty-three years. The company publish a booklet which gives a description of the voyage and interesting pictures of the farms. One of the conditions of the offer is that any of the persons selected to go may nominate a son or daughter to make the trip. Five hundred return tickets to London are also to be distributed to country customers, and London customers will be eligible to receive a tourist ticket to any seaside resort they choose for their summer holidays. The object of these offers is to boom Oxo, so that retailers may expect a considerable increase in the sale of this meat product.

THE NEW "SQUIRE."—There is a suggestion in our Coloured Supplement this week that the new edition of Squire's "Companion" is a suitable Christmas gift for chemists to give to their medical friends. It is a "happy thought," for, as "The Lancet" has remarked in reviewing the new edition:

The "Companion" is a classic, but it is a standard also, and the author may be congratulated heartily on having completed a work which, because of its thorough and authoritative character, is sure to receive the appreciation of physician, chemist, and pharmacist alike.

Our own reviews of the book have shown how much it has advanced as a work of reference for pharmacists and their assistants. Some of the latter may also benefit by the "happy thought," especially as chemists get the book at trade price from the publishers, Messrs. J. & A. Churchill, or from Messrs. Squire & Sons, 413 Oxford Street, London, W.

WELLCOME'S PHOTOGRAPHIC DIARY.—The 1909 edition of this pocket-book has been issued this week. The book has been produced in the usual "natty" style, and contains the features of previous editions. The central part is taken up with the diary pages, and in addition there are many pages devoted to matters photographic. The information on the various manipulations is especially written from the point of view of users of tabloid products, but there is a large amount of condensed intelligence which all photographers will find useful. The tables of plate and paper speeds are especially instructive, and, used in conjunction with the Wellcome exposure calculator fastened on the inside of the cover, insure good negatives from a technical point of view. Of late much attention has been given to the influence of temperature on the time of development, and in reply to a postcard request purchasers of Wellcome's photographic exposure record and diary receive a card for use in the dark-room showing the times of development at temperatures from 45° F. to 70° F. for eighteen tabloid developers. The pocket-book embodies the result of an enormous amount of work in getting out the various factors, and the 1909 edition will doubtless be as great a favourite with the amateur photographer as have been the previous issues. Three editions are issued—(1) the Northern Hemisphere edition (bound in light green), for all countries north of the Tropic of Cancer; (2) the Southern Hemisphere and Tropical edition (bound in dark green), for all countries south of the Tropic of Cancer; (3) the United States edition (bound in red), for use in the United States of America. The book sells at 1s.

Westminster Wisdom.

(From our Parliamentary Representatives.)

Poisons and Pharmacy Bill.

We learn that the amendments which are likely to be tabled by the Government when the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill is in Committee will be very much on the following lines: The amendments in themselves are not numerous, but they deal with points of some considerable importance. Briefly summarised, it may be stated that they seek to provide effective control in regard to all companies keeping open shops for the sale of poisons, and in the case of companies using titles it is to be provided that the person in control should be given a position on the governing body of the concern. They will also include a clause prepared by the Attorney-General for Ireland to adapt Clause 3 to the exceptional conditions of the Irish Acts and practice, as indicated by Mr. Herbert Samuel on the second reading. Now that the Bill has been referred to one of the Standing Committees, if the Government so desire, there is every reason to believe that its appearance before that body will not of necessity be unduly delayed by reason of the prior claims of other measures. There is every intention on the part of the Government to place the Bill on the statute-book before the prorogation of Parliament, and no step will, it is anticipated, be left untaken to secure that end.

The Bill has on two occasions within the past week narrowly escaped being read a second time. On Friday it was first in order after the Education Bill. The proceedings closed that day at 5 p.m., and five minutes before that time the word "Monday" uttered by the Government whip carried it over to this week. A member had expressed his earnest desire to say something, but there was no time for that, and what he meant to say is now buried in the limbo of things which are better left unsaid. On Tuesday the Bill was again immediately after education, but once more there was one of those unforeseen trifles which carried it over until "to-morrow."

THE SECOND READING TAKEN.

In the House of Commons on Thursday afternoon the Prime Minister announced that the further discussion on the Education Bill would, in view of negotiations that were going on, be postponed until the next day. He, therefore, proposed, under the circumstances, to proceed with the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill, which was sixth in the order of the day.

Mr. Herbert Samuel, Under Secretary for the Home Department, accordingly rose to move the second reading of this Bill, and in doing so stated that the changes as to Government plans as regards public business had paved the way for the discussion of a matter of departmental importance. Considering the nature of the Bill and how it was regarded in all parts of the House, the House would not be unwilling to consider its proposals. The Bill, he proceeded, contained three principles. Clause 1 proposed to bring up to date the schedule of poisons contained in the 1868 Act, in the light of the later knowledge of medical and pharmaceutical science which had accumulated in the intervening period. And this clause, which would be welcomed by agriculturists, of whom many were in the House, dealt with the supply of sheep-dips and weed-killers which at present technically came under the ordinary law of poisons, but inconvenience had been caused by the restrictions on the sale of these poisons, and agriculturists had long desired that further facilities should be granted for obtaining these articles. The clause accordingly provided that where the existing facilities were unsatisfactory—and it was not intended to compete with chemists—the local authorities might licence tradesmen other than registered chemists to sell them, subject to the regulations which were thus made under the Bill. These proposals followed upon the recommendations of the very strong committee which sat in 1901, and which was appointed by the late Government, and which was unanimous in recommending this change in the law. With regard to these two provisions there was little difficulty, and he anticipated that no objection could be raised. The third provision was a point that had given rise to some controversy. It had been found

to be necessary that companies which conducted the business of a drug-store should be liable for offences against the Pharmacy Act which were committed by their agents. That was a proper change in the law which the drug-stores conceded to be necessary. It arose out of a legal decision which held that where an unqualified person sold poisons in a shop belonging to a company which was a drug-store company, that person was alone to be punished, and the company could not be punished because it was not a chemist within the meaning of the Act. A keen controversy at once arose between the chemist and drug-stores on the question whether or not the drug-stores ought to be allowed to use the title of "chemist." On the one hand, a qualified chemist said that he had had to undergo a prolonged training and pay for expensive education, and though he did not want a monopoly of the business of dispensing medicines he ought to be protected in some way. On the other hand, the friend of the drug-stores pointed out that they had for many years been carrying on this business, and therefore to interfere with them by law and to deprive them of the title of "chemists" would deprive themselves also of the business which they had built up. When this controversy arose the letter-bags of the members of Parliament were filled with communications relating to it, and columns of the newspapers were devoted to discussions of it. When I took up this subject I was told by both parties—chemists and drug-stores—that there was only one point on which they were in common agreement, and that was that an agreement between them was impossible. Now the case wears a different aspect. The Bill was introduced this year into the House of Lords in a non-controversial form. The Joint Committee of the two Houses of Parliament heard the evidence from both sides. It was a representative and impartial Committee, and it reported the Bill to the House of Lords very much in the form in which it now comes to this House. Since that time there have been prolonged negotiations with organised chemists and with representatives of the drug-stores, and also with representatives of the co-operative stores. I am happy to be in a position to-day to state that all three parties are reconciled to one another, and that they accept the Bill in the form which it is now before the House, subject to some small amendments in detail of an unimportant character, which it will be my privilege to move in the Committee stage. Under these circumstances, I trust that the House will seize this favourable moment and give the Bill a second reading.

Sir Frederick Banbury said he had listened to the statement of the hon. member, for he remembered the part the subject took at the general election. He remembered he had a very long interview with the chemists in the constituency which he then represented. He thought there was much to be said for their side, and also there was much to be said for the other side. At that time there did not appear to him to be the slightest hope of any agreement. Now he understood an agreement had been arrived at. He had received communications from the different people interested in the Bill to that effect, but he thought the Under-Secretary, before he asked them to agree to the second reading of the Bill, should inform them what the amendments were which it was proposed to introduce later. The first communication which he had received had been from a grocers' association in London, objecting to certain provisions in the Bill which required that grocers should only be allowed to sell poisonous substances provided that they were wrapped and labelled and bore the name of a certified chemist. He would like to know if the objections of the grocers' association had been safeguarded, and if there still remained any ground for complaint. This Bill had been introduced as an agreed Bill, but to him it resembled the Education Bill, which had been brought in as an agreed Bill, but which they had found on the Committee stage was not agreed. They ought, therefore, to have a full statement as to the conditions on which the Bill was agreed to.

Mr. F. E. Smith said that he desired to ask one or two questions as to the position of the chemist in the Bill. The Under-Secretary would remember that he had accompanied a deputation to him about a year ago in regard to the view taken by the chemist. That deputation had a very sympathetic hearing when it presented their grievances. He could

not see that any useful purpose would be served by discussing the grievances then. Chemists were highly specialised, and their education qualified them for their duties, and they thought that it was a grievance that they should not enjoy the same character in the eyes of the law as that enjoyed by medical and legal practitioners. He as desired to ask what form the amendment would take in order to ensure that the chemist would be protected under the Bill. At the general election he had given a definite pledge in regard to this matter, and he wanted to know if he could vote for the second reading without violating that pledge.

Mr. Winfrey said that as the member placed in charge of the official Bill of the Pharmaceutical Society, he wished to say that the negotiations which had taken place had proved quite satisfactory to the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mr. Samuel said that with the permission of the House he would explain what the amendments to be introduced were. The effect of them would be that the drug stores must have a duly qualified chemist in charge of the actual dispensing. That was the present law, and would still continue, but in addition the drug-stores would have a certificated man managing the company, and when the company which owns the business has more than one shop there must be a superintendent of the dispensers of the business, and at the same time the general manager must (where the title is used) be a chemist and druggist. The companies and the chemists had agreed that that was a reasonable solution of the question. The title of "pharmacist" was limited to registered chemists. The drug stores were allowed (on the conditions stated) to retain the title of "chemist" or "druggist."

Lord Helmsley said he did not like to oppose the Bill, but he should like to hear from somebody representing the Government what was the opinion on one or two points. The point he was anxious to safeguard was that there should be no undue difficulty placed in the way of agriculturists who desire to obtain sheep-dip. He thought the licences which were to be granted to the seller of the sheep-dip should be freely granted. In regard to the sale of vitriol, he thought that, in view of the outrages which they heard of from time to time, there should be more difficulty in obtaining it.

Mr. Rees said that there was keen competition between ironmongers and chemists, and he would like to know from the Under-Secretary whether, under this Bill, the sale of weed-killer and sheep-dip would be stopped. He was much inclined to think that it would be rather a harsh measure and would be resented by small agriculturists near country towns.

Mr. Hicks Beech said that it was very important that agriculturists throughout the country should not be put to any serious inconvenience as the result of passing this Bill in obtaining the necessities they required, in the shape of sheep-dips, weed-killers, and other poisonous substances. He understood that in the past registered chemists and druggists had very much objected to companies styling themselves chemists and druggists. He was informed that this knotty point had been settled by agreement, and in future only registered chemists and druggists might call themselves "pharmacists," but companies who carried on the business of chemists might use the title of "chemist and druggist." Was the House to understand that this had been agreed upon by the two parties concerned, and therefore no difficulty of the kind would be raised in the future?

Mr. A. H. Scott said he was quite at one with those who wished to protect everyone purchasing drugs, and thought the sale of drugs should be under the strict supervision of an educated chemist who knew the nature of the drugs that he was selling. There was, however, a clause in this Bill which, they were told, was an agreed Bill, which he could not understand. He could not conceive how those who represented drug stores could have agreed to Sub-section 4 of Clause 3, which insisted that before the business of a chemist could be carried on or a firm could describe itself as a chemist, there should be a director of the concern who was a qualified man. He asked the House to consider the position of Whiteley's Stores, the

Army and Navy Stores, or any other big undertaking of that kind. It was essential that in businesses like those the customers in the country districts should be able to be provided with everything they required. If they had a chemist department in those concerns, who was going to say that in the organisation of great businesses like those it was essential that because a man had had a university education and had become a qualified chemist he should take part in the administration of these huge undertakings? He thought such a position should not be forced by the House of Commons on to any concern. Let them by all means provide every protection they could for the public, but the organisation and conduct of such businesses was really no concern of the House. He had considerable doubt about giving the Pharmaceutical Society and other societies increasing powers. Let the House give to local authorities and to public inspectors all the help that they could, but they ought not to give to committees of chemists the power of inflicting penalties and the administration of the law of the country.

Lord Balcarras said that the chemist's department in big businesses like the Army and Navy Stores only represented a small fraction of the share capital and of the business outlay. It would be unfair, therefore, to ask the shareholders of such great companies to put on their board a man who would very likely be perfectly useless on general commercial questions, in order that they might qualify themselves to use the title of "chemist." On the whole he thought the title might properly be used so long as the business was properly conducted.

Mr. Idris addressed the House as a representative of the Pharmaceutical Society and a member of a Joint Committee who considered the Bill. He said that since the committee concluded its inquiry a compromise had been arrived at, as far as he could judge, with every party concerned—the Drug Companies Association, the Co-operative Societies, the President of the Veterinary College, and Sir John Barker.

Mr. G. L. Courthorpe wanted it made clear that Clause 2 would not make it more difficult, but easier to obtain these articles. He appealed to Mr. Samuel to see that these Orders in Council would be issued with the utmost dispatch, and he hoped the Government would see their way to extend the exceptions under this Act in regard to those substances which licensed dealers would be able to sell without the necessary chemist. He thought it might be extended to certain of the well-recognised animal medicines which were found in every well-conducted stable. It should not be necessary to go to a chemist in order to obtain those articles, which were sometimes difficult to procure when required in haste. Agriculturists were very eager to have Clause 2 placed on the statute-book this year, and he wondered whether the Under-Secretary could, under the exceptional circumstances, give an idea of the exact words of the clause so that people in the country might have an opportunity of studying them before the Committee stage was reached. If they waited until that period various persons interested would not have an opportunity of making up their minds. Some regulations were certainly needed in the matter of licensing. In many parts of the country these poisons were kept by the local grocer, and there was a danger where the poisons were kept by persons of a careless character, that if the bag which contained the weed-killer got broken the dust would become mixed up with the sugar on the shelf below. The local authorities should certainly be consulted as to the suitability of these people who held the licences. The Bill was an immense improvement on previous legislation, inasmuch as it produced some order out of chaos, and he heartily congratulated the Under-Secretary upon the agreement that had been arrived at.

Mr. William Ashley supported the Bill because it came from another place, where he was sure it had received ample consideration, but had not been subjected to any guillotine motion. He also supported it because he understood it was a compromise between the chemists and the drug-stores. He had received innumerable communications from both sides in regard to the Bill, but he thought that it was only a matter of detail that those of them who were non-experts should venture to criticise its provisions on second reading. The Bill was a compromise, and therefore neither side

could hope to get as much as they wanted. If the representatives of the companies in the House propose to oppose the second reading because they could not get everything they wanted, and refused to budge in order to meet the chemist, they must despair of getting legislation. On the whole, he considered that the compromise was a fair one, and he should support the second reading. He strongly supported the suggestion that persons who sold these poisons should have a licence from the local authority, and there was no better person to have supervision over them than the local authority. He hoped Mr. Samuel would be careful in extending the list of poisons which might be sold by these more or less irresponsible persons. He would also like to know why Ireland was to be treated differently from England and Wales. In regard to Subsection 6, he said, a more outrageous instance of legislation by reference he had never come across. Some means also should be found for dealing with the extensive use of morphia and other drugs which were so much used by men and women in this country. In Committee he would ask Mr. Samuel to include morphia and other similar drugs in the list of substances in regard to which regulations might be made by Order in Council. The drug-habit in this country, which was a most insidious one, did nearly as much harm as drink, and he hoped Mr. Samuel would be able to see his way to diminish the facilities for obtaining these drugs from chemists and other people.

Mr. Vivian said the co-operative societies had resisted the passing of the Bill, but what had been called a compromise gave them all the satisfaction they required. The Bill did not in any way prevent a corporate body of that kind from carrying on the business of a chemist and druggist: it gave ample power to carry on such a business, and there was no restriction in that direction. As to the title, that was the only remaining point of difference between the advocates of this Bill and the great co-operative organisations, but the differences had been met. Chemists protested against the use of a personal title by those bodies, but stated that those bodies were quite at liberty to use any title to place before the public full information that they were carrying on these businesses, and might call themselves drug-stores, drug-selling department, pharmaceutical department, chemistry department, or pharmaceutical and drug department. These bodies said that this was ample for their purpose, and that they did not want to trench on the purely personal title that was given to chemists.

Mr. H. W. Forster said he was in favour of the second reading of the Bill, and especially so because it dealt with the drug-habit. It was some consolation to them to know that the Bill did something to stiffen up the sale of morphia. The drug-habit was very largely on the increase, and it was one of the most insidious and deplorable diseases which man or woman could incur. He was a member of a Committee which sat for the purpose of considering the question of certain drug-cures, and he was certain that everyone would feel gratified for anything that could be done to make it more difficult to obtain these drugs. He suggested that vitriol should be added to the Schedule.

Mr. A. T. Hedges pointed out that the fight had been over the use of the title. The large companies who had been striving to retain the title were not now desirous of so doing. Under the sub-clause they were taking away the monopoly of the use of the title and handing over another title, that of "pharmacist," which was very obscure to the man in the street. If these large corporations were willing to have some other name, it seemed unnecessary to rob chemists and druggists of their distinctive title.

Another speaker, Mr. Henry Craik, after alluding to the suddenness with which the Bill had come before the House, said he had received a large amount of correspondence in regard to the Bill. He was afraid a compromise of the kind which had been arrived at was apt to be made without regard to the real interests of the public. Clause 2, which dealt with the question of poisonous sheep-dips, gave wider powers than had been enjoyed hitherto. He thought that they ought not to allow the widespread sale of these poisons simply because it was more convenient for some people to get them from

the grocers' shops. The section was a very dangerous one, and would not be permitted in either France or Germany. This provision would sweep away all the advantages which chemists obtained from their qualification; the only reason for the section seemed to be that some members thought it would be more convenient to the views of their constituents if poisons were to be retailed by ignorant persons. It was a most dangerous clause in the Bill, for it abolished restrictions which had been imposed on sound grounds. Clause 4 seemed to him to interfere with previous provisions, and seemed to modify the power of the Pharmaceutical Society. In regard to the granting of certificates, he would like to know what changes were actually made, and why?

Mr. Strauss welcomed the Bill for many reasons, but thought it must be amended in several respects. Objection had been taken because vitriol was not a medicine, but that was not the case. The Bill would not, he continued, do much to cure the drug-habit, which is on the increase. He considered that chlorodyne had largely contributed to this, and he thought the sale should not be so free as it is. He hoped the Government would introduce some clause which would make it more difficult to obtain it. He also asked for a clause to prevent a prescription being dispensed after it is a month old. The danger in regard to such drugs has been increased by the fact that they are put up in the form of tabloids. He congratulated all parties on coming to a fair compromise, but hoped before the Bill passed something would be done in the directions indicated.

Mr. Dillon said it had been correctly pointed out that the sale of poisonous substances was made more easy by the Bill. In Ireland the law in regard to the sale of sheep-dip and sulphate of copper had been for years set at defiance owing to the necessities of the case. Everybody recognises that convenience must override the law, and the Government were correct in trying to bring the law within the facts of the case. Clause 2 ought to go further, and enable all the necessities for agriculture to be freely supplied. In rural districts cases of poisoning were very rare. If this was a case, it was always rat-poison that was used, and he believed that was not included at all in the Bill. In his opinion, the Government should enlarge Clause 2.

Mr. Herbert Samuel said most of the points raised would need to be settled in Committee. Clause 2 was the most important in the Bill, but it did not propose to impose restrictions on the sale of weed-killer and sheep-dip to the farmer, but to insure that agricultural and horticultural trades get these articles (generally containing poisons) more easily than now. Ironmongers sell them at present, but illegally, and are liable to prosecution. Mr. Samuel then pointed out the double check provided—viz., that the legal authorities should only license persons of reputation and see that every reasonable precaution were taken—while Orders to be made in Council controlling the schedule would be an additional means of safeguarding their proper use. Mr. Dillon had suggested that Clause 2 ought to be enlarged, and that all the poisonous substances used in agriculture should be added to the schedule. He mentioned copper sulphate, but I would point out to him that that is not a poisonous substance within the meaning of the Pharmacy Act, and it can be sold by any dealer. I will also say for the information of the House that by Order in Council at any time other poisonous matters which may come into use can always be added for us to be covered by Clause 3. Two or three honourable members have brought up the question of morphia. To them I would say that the Bill does make a change in the law, because it takes morphia out of the category of Part 2 of the Act of 1868 and puts it in Part 1, thus increasing the restrictions on its sale. I may say that whatever restrictions there are in the law with regard to the sale of prussic acid will now be applied to the sale of morphia. Mr. Samuel then went on to say that it was not originally intended to apply the Bill to Ireland at all, but there was a great desire expressed that Clause 2 should be applied to that country. Clause 3, which deals with the vexed question of the drug-stores and how far the title of chemist and druggist should be used by companies, does not apply to Ireland; that is a question which should be dealt with by the Irish Pharmacy Acts, and it would be exceedingly difficult to adapt those

Acts for the purposes of this Bill. If it is the genuine desire of the Ireland members that Clause 3 should be extended the Government would be willing to do so. The compromise that has been effected in regard to this Bill is a real one. The Bill is one which the Government think should be sent to a Standing Committee and not be dealt with by a Committee of the whole House.

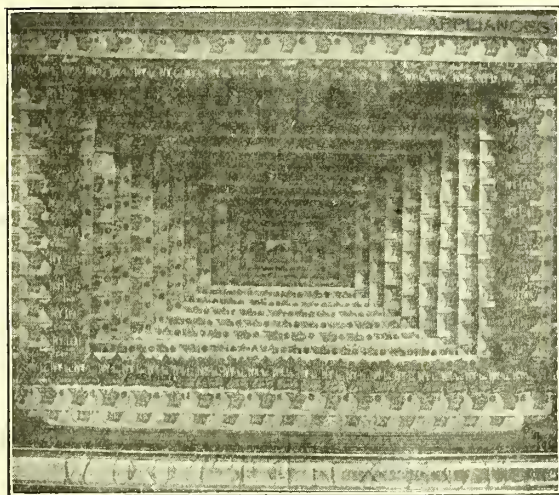
The Bill was then read a second time without a division, and was referred to a Standing Committee.

NICOTINE SPRAYS.

Mr. G. C. Courthorpe, who suggested in the House of Commons on Thursday that the Board of Agriculture should issue a leaflet dealing with the regulations for the spraying of fruit-trees now in force in British Columbia, and with the mixtures used for spraying in that country, informed our representative that British Columbia is far in advance of Great Britain in dealing with insect-pests and fungi. This is borne out by a most interesting statement which was made on the subject quite recently at a fruit-growers' conference at Wye by Mr. Scott, of the horticultural department of the Board of Agriculture in that country. Mr. Courthorpe, it may be added, suggested at the same time to the Chancellor of the Exchequer that in view of the value of nicotine-washes for spraying fruit-trees, and the present high cost of such washes, he should remit the excise duty on all tobacco grown in the United Kingdom which may be manufactured for horticultural or agricultural purposes.

Chemists' Windows.

Contributed by "C. & D." Subscribers. The Editor will be glad to receive photographs of effective window-displays for inclusion in this section. Notes on the displays should accompany the photographs. We pay for what we use.



A Feat in Perspective.

THIS interesting photograph is of a window arranged by Mr. F. H. Webb, of Messrs. Wootton & Webb, Market Place, Luton, who tells us that it was arranged in the following manner:

First a border was attached to the window itself, consisting of two rows of cornsilk envelopes and one row of cardboard ivy-leaves (supplied with envelopes). A series of light frames was made, each one being smaller than the preceding one, until the last was about the size of one envelope. The tops and bottoms of the frames were thin bamboo rods and the sides strips of tough paper. Envelopes were then attached to all the frames except the smallest, the whole being hung in the window and carefully adjusted to the shape of a camera bellows. In the smallest frame a razor was suspended, together with a ticket "Superseded."

The result of the display, from a business point of view, was excellent, and Messrs. Wootton & Webb were congratulated by large numbers of people on its effectiveness.

Observations and Reflections.

By "Xrayser."

The Concordat

behind the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill seems to possess vigour enough to send that measure through its remaining Parliamentary stages, and it may have passed its second reading in the House of Commons by the time this note is printed. Until it is actually an enactment, finished off with its final amendments, it will be too early to cast up the credits and debits of the Bill and resolve whether the balance is in our favour or against us; but in any case it is difficult to believe that the future historian of British pharmacy will set down the first legislative achievement of the twentieth century which it will fall to his lot to record as a register of progress. In 1852 and 1868 we seemed to be soaring towards the professional firmament. We began to fancy ourselves an "estate" of the Realm of Healing, and some of us were anticipating the glory of pharmacy figuring as a "section" of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. We demanded a compulsory curriculum and pegged out for ourselves university degrees. The disaster of 1880 checked the cephalic development for a time, but we took to telling each other that pharmacy depended on personality, and on this axiom we established the theorem that individuals would be sure to conquer corporations in the long run. Our philosophers will hardly have the courage to append the letters "Q.E.D." to the forthcoming statutory record of the terms agreed upon between the antagonists representing the rival and, possibly, the conflicting interests of modern pharmacy. It is, however, in regard to

The Sale of Poisons

that we are to be specially humiliated. Expressed with all the politeness that a Parliamentary draftsman is capable of, and glossed over with whatever skill may be available, the Act of 1903, if that is to be its date, will assuredly suggest to the acute youths who are preparing to succeed us that we have not been as faithful to the trust committed to us in 1868 as we were expected to be. Much might be said on both sides of that question, but I am only concerned just now to point out that our acceptance of the Government Bill without a protest in the House of Commons has very much the appearance of letting judgment go by default. This is not saying that the course taken on our behalf has been unwise. Taking all the circumstances into consideration, I do not think a policy of unyielding resistance to the proposed licensed poison-vendors could have been justified; but it would have been more practical, more creditable to ourselves, and more sure of a certain amount of independent support from legislators than the recondite repinings after "our title" have been.

The Fifty Years' History

now credited to the General Medical Council has been distinguished by a collective wisdom and moderation which must impress the reflective critic who recalls the difficulties of the task imposed upon that body. The Act of 1858 which created the General Medical Council was a disappointment to the ardent spirits in the profession who thought, as many think now, that the public good could only be secured by the imprisonment of all unqualified practitioners of medicine. This Act proclaimed in effect free trade in physic, and went no farther in its penal provisions than the protection of titles.

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Editorial Comments.

Cape Medicine-stamping.

WHEN we discussed a fortnight since the peculiar state of affairs in Cape Colony as regards stamped medicines, we pointed out that the incidents recall what occurred in Great Britain in 1802 and 1803. Now we have further evidence of this in the interpretations of the new Act by the Cape Treasury Department. Like the home Government last century, the Treasury is endeavouring to extract more out of the Act than there is in it. Soda-water was the rock on which the officials at home were stranded, and foods may be the rock ahead for the Cape people, but they are sailing in a veritable shoal of rocks, as may be seen by the gazetted memorandum which we reprint on p. 851. The tax is only applicable to medicines, but the Cape Treasury include as such certain foods and toilet-preparations which are not recommended as medicines. Then they take the all-embracing view of the trade-mark provision. As we pointed out, the wording of the Act follows home practice by requiring duty to be paid on medicines "sold under a name or trade-mark registered specially in regard thereto." The Treasury's ruling, however, will practically include every medicine bearing a trade-mark or exclusive name. Examples of this are given in the memorandum, and it will be seen that if the ruling is logically followed, firms and persons will be precluded from using their trade-marks on their labels, unless a stamp is affixed when the article is sold. Chemists who use the pharmaceutical or Royal arms on their labels will also have to stamp the medicines on which they are placed. Those who trade under a name not their own may be hauled into the net. We instanced the name of "Lennon" in our issue of

November 21; that is the designation of a well-known South African house, and we mentioned it to illustrate the absurdity of what was being done at the Cape; but the Treasury apparently do not regard it as absurd, for they rule that "Wellcome" on medicines will make them liable to duty. There is nothing in the Act which confines the tax to medicines for human use, consequently veterinary medicines are included, as will be seen by the memorandum. The Treasury have commenced to say what veterinary medicines are liable, and, having started on this course, they must logically proceed on the same lines as they are doing in regard to preparations for human beings which they regard as medicines. This is to bring them into an appalling slough! For example, certain hair-lotions which figure on many dressing-tables must be stamped. Therefore corresponding preparations used for animals should also be stamped, which means that dips used for scab would have to pay medicine-stamp duty. If the Treasury are right in some of their present rulings, that is how they have to go; and if they do not enforce the duty in the case of sheep-dip for scab (which they are not likely to, seeing what trouble they would raise with the dear Cape farmers), then there is no reason why retailers should stamp hair-preparations for human beings. Altogether the way the Act is being worked is eloquent proof of the folly of adopting an ancient and archaic tax to modern circumstances and a new constituency. The Medicine-stamp Acts of 1802-12 would not in principle survive a day were they reviewed by our Parliament, and they are allowed to remain on the statute-book because our authorities administer them (as the result of generations of experience) with the minimum of friction to the traders who have to do with them. The amount which the Cape Treasury will get out of the tax will be miserably small compared with the trouble the Department will have and the disturbance and injury the tax will inflict on the trade. We note that some chemists, in view of the fact that the Act provides no punishment for offenders, are to ignore the tax. This fact, joined to the inconsistencies which we have outlined (and they are mere examples), may bring the authorities to reason ere long.

Medicine Tenders.

THE discussion at the meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board regarding the future supply of medicines to its institutions, reported in our last issue, has created considerable indignation in wholesale drug circles. The remark of one member of the Board that the proposal submitted and ultimately adopted "insinuated that there is only one firm in London who is above reproach and serves the best quality of drugs," is one with which there is, as was to be expected, general agreement, it being felt that a public body of this nature reflects detrimentally upon all who are engaged in the drug-business by such a resolution as that which they adopted as regards the future supply of medicines. This is irrespective of and without reflecting upon the particular source from which the medicines may be obtained. It scarcely requires to be stated in these pages that the equipment of the factories of many wholesale druggists and manufacturing chemists in the Metropolis and provinces is up-to-date. Further, they are associated with analytical control which ensures in the case of official preparations that they accord with the British Pharmacopœia requirements, and that non-official preparations are of proved potency or approved standards. It is perfectly well known that British wholesale druggists have largely contributed to the improvement of pharmacopœial processes, and in regard to the purity of chemicals and galenicals they are frequently in advance of

official requirements. Apart altogether from these considerations, which in view of prevailing knowledge of the facts should not require repetition, it may be pointed out that the proposed method of supply adopted by the Metropolitan Asylums Board is contrary to the procedure usually sanctioned by the Local Government Board, which requires supplies to be obtained by competitive tender wherever possible. We have submitted this consideration to the President of the Local Government Board, and it is receiving consideration. We also understand that Mr. John C. Umney has had a long and satisfactory conversation with the President about the matter, and through him has been able to interview the principal officers of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. The arrangement for the ensuing year as determined by the Board on November 21, having been entered upon will proceed, but it has been decided for the future to modify the system of tendering so as to bring it into conformity more or less with the system observed in the case of Army contracts. The Local Government Board will assist the Metropolitan Asylums Board as far as possible in revising the system so that it may be ready for introduction at the end of next year. The whole trade will then be at liberty to tender. In our correspondence columns we print a letter from Messrs. Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., from which it will be observed that they had not the opportunity, while the question of change of contract was under discussion by the Committee of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, of meeting the Committee and defending themselves. They were and are still prepared to prove that the medicines supplied by them were "pure and wholesome" in accordance with the contract.

Asafetida in U.S.A.

THE paragraph which we published in our American Notes last week (p. 817) in regard to the rejection of recent consignments of asafetida by the United States Customs serves to call attention to a serious grievance under which American importers and London exporters are suffering. Recently, it appears, the imports of low-grade asafetida into the United States have been larger than usual, and this has led to the Board of Food and Drug Inspection rejecting several consignments from London, some of which, they say, contained so little of the gum-resin as to be almost inert. Asafetida was selected as a representative drug because when "found in a crude state of a low grade it cannot be used for the preparation of medicinal preparations of proper potency and therapeutic quality." But the question arises, How is the asafetida sampled? It is contended—and rightly—that the drug cannot be sampled adequately according to the method adopted by the Customs, who merely open the cases, and probably take an unusual proportion of sand, stones, and foreign matter, as compared with the natural gum-resin, which, being loose and in small tears, falls to the bottom of the case, where it is overlooked. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that much of the asafetida fails to respond to U.S.P. standard, which is that at least 50 per cent. shall be soluble in alcohol, with 10 per cent. of ash after incineration. As it is, importers claim that such drugs below U.S.P. strength should be admitted under Section 7 of the Act, which provides that "No drug defined in the United States Pharmacopœia shall be deemed to be adulterated if the standard of strength, quality, or purity be plainly stated on the container." But the Board of Food and Drug Inspection take their stand on Section 11 of the Pure Food and Drugs Act, which provides for the exclusion of any article of food or drug "dangerous to the health of the people of the United States," while

the Board further hold that such low-grade asafetida as has been imported into the United States is "forbidden to be sold or restricted in sale" in Germany and England, the countries from which it is shipped to the United States." On this point the authorities, of course, are quite in error, as there are no restrictions whatever on the importation of crude drugs into this country, the duties of the port sanitary inspector being mainly concerned with watching the imports of food. Declarations on these lines have been put before the New York authorities, and have doubtless influenced them in deciding to release several recent consignments. On this side it is recognised that the Pharmacopœia places the onus of conforming to its standards on manufacturers and retailers, so that it is not necessary for the port authorities to test drugs before entry. It is also pointed out that by American importers many crude drugs are never found to equal the U.S.P. standard until ground or treated, and it is only just to permit such importations in the state in which they are obtainable, and then have the law insist that the finished product made from such drugs should be up to the U.S.P. standards. In view of the recent ruling (which has also applied to other crude drugs, such as Sumatra benzoin and Alexandrian senna of good quality), importers are striving for a new import law permitting the importation of crude drugs below U.S.P. standard when for use only in manufacturing. The Customs authorities are by no means consistent in their action, for we are informed that a parcel of asafetida from London was rejected and reshipped here; but upon the same parcel being shipped to New York *via* Hamburg it gained admittance. Frequent instances occur of shipments of drugs being rejected at one port and subsequently consigned and passed at another.

Unqualified Medical Practice.

As will be seen from our report of the proceedings of the General Medical Council, a bulky digest was presented to that body of the measures taken to prevent unqualified practice in foreign Countries. The G.M.C. are going to ask that a Royal Commission be appointed by the Government "to inquire into the evil effects produced by the unrestricted practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons." Dr. A. G. Bateman, Secretary of the Medical Defence Union, last week read a paper upon "Unqualified Practice and the Medical Act of 1858" before the Medico-Legal Society, in the course of which he indicated some of the difficulties that are encountered in securing convictions of persons who use titles which, according to Dr. Bateman, imply that they are registered under the Medical Act. It is quite clear, said Dr. Bateman, that as the law at present stands, provided a man adds to any self-imposed title, such as M.D., letters such as U.S.A., or any other title which could not be found in the schedule to the Medical Register, the chances of successful prosecution are extremely slight. He quoted the following opinion of counsel which had been obtained lately:

It is not enough for the prosecution to prove that the accused is not registered. It is not enough to prove, further, that he calls himself by a registrable title, or some title which is rather like a registrable title, or seems to imply medical skill and knowledge. It is not enough to prove still further that he has no right at all to the title. But you must go further still and prove that he has no reasonable ground at all for thinking that he has the right to use the title, so as to leave no other alternative but the inference of a deliberate attempt to impose upon the public.

Dr. Bateman suggested that it would be easy to find a remedy for this state of things, provided Parliament could be brought to view the position in a proper light. One way would be to enact that every medical practitioner should be required to take out each year a certificate to

practise, as is the case with solicitors, and that such certificate should only be granted to persons upon the Medical Register, and that the General Medical Council should have power to prosecute those who are uncertificated. Another way would be to bring the Act into line with the Veterinary Surgeons Act. A resolution was proposed by Dr. Bateman to the meeting, but it was ruled out of order. The general opinion in the discussion that followed was that the Legislature would be very unlikely to prevent anyone from practising the art of healing.

Deaths under Anæsthetics.

We understand that, so far as the General Medical Council is concerned, there is no intention of making any recommendation in regard to the holding of an official inquiry into the question of deaths under anæsthetics. It may be remembered that in the House of Commons last week Mr. Herbert Gladstone, in reply to an interrogation by Dr. G. J. Cooper, stated that the Lord President of the Council, through whom he communicated with the General Medical Council, informed him that he understood that a reply might be expected in a very short time from that body—which was at that time in session—to the correspondence which had taken place, and that the question of holding a formal inquiry must be postponed at any rate until he was made aware what action the General Medical Council were prepared to take in the matter. The matter came before the Council at its meeting last week, and the Registrar of the General Medical Council was directed to write to the licensing authorities and ascertain whether they were willing that effect should be given to the recommendation which was carried about two years ago to the effect that all students should be instructed in the administration of anæsthetics. It may be taken for granted, we understand, that all the replies will be in the affirmative; indeed, there is but little doubt that in many cases the recommendation is already in force. These replies cannot be received for a considerable time, although the results may be reported to the Privy Council at an earlier date. It is probable that the Home Secretary will again be interrogated in the course of a few days as to what steps he now proposes to take, in view of the correspondence which has taken place with the General Medical Council.

The Rise in Bromides.

The information which we published under our Continental Markets last week, on p. 837, to the effect that makers are booking orders for bromides for delivery only up to the end of the year, gave the market cue to the advance which took place on Tuesday, December 1, when British and German makers raised their prices by 100 per cent. Barely a week ago potassium bromide was offered in vain from second hands at 5½*d.* per lb., but to-day the makers' price is 10½*d.* net, at which they are sellers of small quantities only for prompt delivery, no orders being booked forward. This radical change in the situation points to the fact that the bromide war between the German and American makers, which has been dragging on intermittently for about three years, has now terminated; but information on this point is not positive. We are informed, however, on excellent authority, that negotiations have been taking place for some time past between the principal American and German producers, and evidently some arrangement has been arrived at on which the present advance is based. It appears that a few people who possessed inside information as to the intended advance took advantage of their position to secure a fairly large quantity of low-priced potassium bromide, which "tired" second-hand dealers were offering at about 5½*d.*; but there is no more to be had at this figure, the second-hand market value being about 9*d.* to 10*d.* per lb., and few sellers at that. Undoubtedly large stocks exist on this market, and unless further developments take place, as is said to be not unlikely, it will be some months before the official prices become general. Meanwhile the American agents in London for the principal producers are not offering, and at the moment there appears to be a difficulty in getting offers for shipment from other sources in the United States. The previous change in the official price of bromides was in January last, when English makers announced a reduction to 6½*d.*, with a falling clause.

General Medical Council.

OUR report of the proceedings at the autumn meeting held in London (*C. & D.*, November 28, p. 830) left the Council considering the allegation against Mr. T. Empey, L.R.C.P.E., Cross Hills, Keighley.

On reassembling on Friday the Council considered the case *in camera*, and after more than an hour's deliberation strangers were readmitted, and the President announced that the facts alleged against Mr. Empey had not been proved to the satisfaction of the Council.

DENTAL CASES.

The case of Mr. Arthur Ward, dentist, Birmingham (*C. & D.*, June 6, p. 867), which came before the Council last session in respect of advertising and was postponed, was then taken. Mr. Ward had obtained leave to absent himself. At the previous hearing his counsel undertook to withdraw a pamphlet objected to. Mr. Turner, representing the complainants, the British Dental Association, had no further report to make, and nobody had anything to say. Mr. Ward was therefore adjudged not guilty of professionally infamous conduct.



SIR T. C. ALLBUTT,
K.C.B., M.D.,

who succeeds Sir Donald MacAlister in the representation of Cambridge University.

The case of Mr. W. J. Watson, dentist, Birmingham, was also in respect to an advertising pamphlet. To this charge was now added that of covering and of advertising in respect of a business carried on by him in another name. As these further facts had not been furnished to the Council's solicitor four days before the

hearing, the case was adjourned.

The facts established against Mr. Charles Morgan, dentist, Cardiff, were that he has repeatedly advertised in the public Press by paragraphs commending his own skill and methods, and by implication claiming superiority over other practitioners. He alleged that his advertisements were inserted in self-defence against certain quack advertisements. Mr. Morgan appeared, accompanied by his counsel, Mr. Poley, who was ready to make apology and any promise on his client's behalf that he would not offend again. Mr. Turner, on behalf of the complainants, was willing to accept these on the understanding that Mr. Morgan conducted his practice in every way in a professional manner. Mr. Morgan gave that undertaking, and the case was deferred till next session.

Mr. George R. Matland was the complainant in the case of Mr. A. D. Rogers and Mr. Lionel C. Davis, dentists, 140 Edgware Road, London, W. Mr. Rogers is brother to Mr. Davis, having changed his name for professional purposes. Mr. Davis admitted that he carried on practice as a dentist in the name of Rogers & Davis at 140 Edgware Road, and also at 34 Liverpool Street and 174 Victoria Street, S.W., and that he is a sole partner in the firm responsible for what is done at these three places in the name of the firm. A Mr. Bonham, who was unqualified, was alleged to have been in the habit of performing dental operations at the Liverpool Street branch, but the Dental Committee had not found the facts proved. The President thereupon asked the Council, "Is it your pleasure to ratify the finding of the committee?" Some amusement was caused as Mr. Davis fervently agreed with "Yes, sir." The Council also agreed, and that finished the penal business.

The Council then went *in camera* for the rest of the afternoon, emerging into daylight only to announce that the names of Samuel Foley and Algernon Frederick Green would be restored to the register. The first business next day was about

THE ADMINISTRATION OF ANÆSTHETICS.

The President stated that a draft Bill on anæsthetics, not a Government Bill, had been sent by the Privy Council for opinion. The Executive Committee had passed a resolution approving the principle of the first clause of the Bill, which prohibits any but qualified practitioners from ad-

ministering anæsthetics in medical or surgical cases or in childbirth. The second clause enacts that all examining bodies should require that all candidates in medicine should receive instruction in the administration of anæsthetics; this the committee could not approve before communicating with the licensing bodies. The Council endorsed the resolution of the committee, and the President undertook to frame a reply to the Privy Council in accordance with it.

ADVERTISING DENTISTS.

The Council next proceeded to consider the resolution adopted by the Executive Committee on November 23 in regard to a communication from the British Dental Association. (See *C. & D.*, November 28, p. 832.) The President stated that representations equally strong had been made to the Council by the British Medical Association and by other persons concerned.

Mr. Tomes said that the Council had been asked by the British Dental Association to pass a resolution which should prohibit advertising by registered dentists; a large majority of registered dentists were in favour of such a prohibition. The Council had, however, no power to prohibit. In 1894 they passed a resolution that the issue of advertisements of an objectionable character, especially those claiming superior skill and depreciating other practitioners, could easily be carried so far as to constitute disgraceful conduct in a professional sense. The Executive Committee therefore had passed a resolution pointing out that the General Medical Council have no power to legislate or to issue resolutions absolutely binding the profession with prohibitive effect, and that in view of the judicial functions of the Council in particular cases of professional misconduct, it is not desirable to pass any further resolution till there are cases before them which appear to call for a warning to dentists.

Dr. Saundby said the Council's resolutions have a prohibitive effect and have done a great deal of good; it would be a great pity to rescind them, and would do harm. He could not agree that the resolution was strong enough.

At the suggestion of the President the resolution was altered to "It is not desirable to pass any further resolution in the case of 'advertising by dentists,' omitting the succeeding words. This met the views of all, and the resolution, passed *nem. con.*, reads:

That the Executive Committee desire to point out that the General Council have no power to legislate or to issue resolutions binding upon the profession and having absolute prohibitive effect. And in view of their judicial functions in particular cases of professional misconduct, it is not desirable to pass any further resolution in the case of advertising by dentists. [The omitted portion of the Executive Committee's resolution is as follows: A resolution condemning any practice in general terms until a series of cases decided before them has so clearly demonstrated the prevalence of that practice as to call, in the opinion of the Council, for a warning notice to the profession.]

THE CURRICULUM AGAIN.

Members of the Council held forth for an hour or more on the proposals submitted by the Education Committee on the divisions of medical study, so that not less than eighteen months of undivided study be set aside for the first period of the course and twenty-seven months for the second course. Dr. Mackay put the case very fully and clearly. Sir John Moore and Dr. N. Moore warmly urged that the scientific subjects should be mastered before the student enters on his clinical course, otherwise he cannot take in or benefit by the latter. The President, from his experience of thirty years as organiser of medical education, said the complaint was that the earlier subjects encroach on the later ones, and the fact to be ascertained is what minimum period after the preliminary subjects have been passed should be devoted to clinical work. This evidently voiced the feeling of the majority of the members, as did the tribute which the President paid to the labours of Dr. Mackay and the Education Committee. Ultimately, at the amicable suggestion of Dr. Mackay, it was moved as an amendment that the matter be remitted back to the committee for further consideration.

THE IRISH APOTHECARIES' HALL

recently resolved that the Preliminary examination in general education held by it for so many years should be

resumed. The Education Committee, to whom the resolution had been remitted by the President, reported that they were unaware of any circumstance which would justify so serious a reversal of the educational policy which at the Council's instance has been generally adopted by the licensing bodies, and recommended that the Council's approval should not be given to the step, adding further a doubt whether it would be recognised for registration. Dr. Adye-Curran again championed the Hall with vigorous eloquence. At the time when the Apothecaries' Hall relinquished the examination, it was understood, he said, that the Conjoint Board of Ireland would do the same. Moreover, now that the old Dublin University is dead, the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons would die too, and the Apothecaries' Hall would be sole survivor. (Sir Christopher Nixon interpolated that perhaps the wish was father to the thought.) It was evident in that case that the accommodation for students would not be sufficient. Sir C. Nixon earnestly deprecated the Hall's proceeding. Sir John Moore stated, on behalf of the Royal College of Physicians, that the Preliminary is conducted in the case of the Conjoint Board of Ireland by a separate Board of Examiners, and only because they could not arrange a convenient time with the Intermediate Board. Finally the President stated that if the Hall puts itself in opposition to the Council and persists, the Council would refuse to register, and would make representations to the Privy Council. Dr. Adye-Curran offered to withdraw the resolution till he had consulted with his body, but the President would not allow that, and said the vote must be put. The Council then passed the report of the Examination Committee. Generous in the time of triumph, the President announced that the assistant examiners to the Hall would not in future be required to report always on the examinations, but only from time to time, unless anything particular occurs. This concession was acknowledged by Dr. Adye-Curran.

As most of the academic business of the Council had been relegated to Saturday—the day on which the Council, in view of the expensive proceedings of last May, had made up their minds to finish the session—other reports were run through with celerity. The report of the Public Health Committee was, in the absence of Sir W. H. Power, postponed. The

REPORT OF THE PHARMACOPŒIA COMMITTEE

contained, as the President said, no recommendation, though it did contain a reference to the admirable work done by the Secretary, Dr. Tirard. It was not even read, and was received and entered in about half a minute. It is reprinted here:

From May 25 to November 21, 1908, the number of copies of the British Pharmacopœia (1898) sold by the publishers was 537. The total number of copies sold in the year beginning November 18, 1907, was 1,125. Up to the present time 40,306 copies of the Pharmacopœia and 4,447 copies of the Indian and Colonial Addendum have been sold. The stock of the Pharmacopœia now on hand consists of 2,724 copies, together with 1,887 copies of the Addendum.

A third interim report from the Committee of Reference in Pharmacy has been received, containing suggestions for the revision of certain monographs of the Pharmacopœia (1898), with proposals respecting the official tests for lead, and the articles to which these tests should be applied. It is proposed to publish the three reports now presented, in order that the Pharmacopœia Committee may have the advantage of noting the criticisms or other comments which may be publicly made upon the suggestions therein contained.

A tabular analysis of the suggestions made by the medical licensing bodies of the United Kingdom, for the inclusion or omission of articles in the next Pharmacopœia, has been prepared by the Secretary, Dr. Tirard. Similar suggestions are now being received from the various British medical authorities outside the United Kingdom. When the whole of the information from these sources is ready for consideration, the committee will be in possession of a body of material which will be of great value to them in their task of adapting the new Pharmacopœia to the needs of the Empire at large.

UNQUALIFIED PRACTICE.

The report of the Unqualified Practice Prevention Committee was embodied in a portly volume containing, as Dr. J. Langley Browne said, a digest of an immense amount of information received from all countries as to the measures taken to prevent unqualified practice. He did not know what the committee would have done in

translating the foreign tongues without the invaluable assistance of the President, who seemed equal to all the languages except one. He moved the following recommendation in the report:

That the General Medical Council, being of opinion that the present Medical Acts do not sufficiently enable "persons requiring medical aid" "to distinguish qualified from unqualified practitioners," and that it is contrary to the interest of the public that medical and surgical practice should be carried on with impunity by persons holding no recognised qualifications, requests the Government to take steps for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the evil effects produced by the unrestricted practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons.

Dr. Latimer supported the resolution, believing that the present is a proper and favourable time to approach the Government, and that they would get a sympathetic response. Dr. Norman Moore also spoke of the extreme value of the report and of the importance of convincing the public of their own interest in the matter. The report was adopted and the resolution agreed to *nem. con.*, amid applause.

OTHER BUSINESS.

The Irish Branch Council reported on the Tuberculosis Prevention Bill (Ireland), and desired an opinion as to the duties which the Bill imposes upon the Branch, of consultation with the Local Government Board. On the advice of the President it was decided to call the attention of the Privy Council to the fact that the duty imposed involves expense, and that neither the Irish Branch nor the G.M.C. itself has funds for duties outside those of medical education and registration. They cannot therefore undertake them unless funds are provided for the purpose. The Council expressed no opinion on the Bill.

Sir John Moore moved:

That it is expedient that the General Medical Council should stand in the same relation to the proposed General Council for the Registration of Nurses in the United Kingdom as the said General Medical Council does to the Central Midwives Board under Sections 3 and 16 of the Midwives Act, 1902.

The discussion on this motion showed varied opinions on the policy of registering nurses, Dr. McVail opposing the motion strongly. An amendment to the motion having been defeated, the motion was carried by a large majority.

The business of the session was practically concluded with this, the sitting having been protracted half an hour only beyond the usual closing time.

A G.M.C. DINNER.

On the evening of November 24, in celebration of the jubilee of the Council, the members of the present Council entertained at dinner the former members of the Council, Mr. Almeric FitzRoy, Chevalier Ganz, and the present and former legal advisers. Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B., was in the chair. The health of the Council was proposed by Mr. Muir Mackenzie, who was for twenty-five years the legal assessor to the Council. Dr. Little proposed the health of Sir William Turner, the late President, who, in reply, sketched the circumstances that led up to the passing of the Medical Act, 1886. The health of the past members of the Council was proposed by Dr. Norman Moore, Sir Walter Foster replying.

Recent Wills.

THE LATE MR. THOMAS WILLIAM SURMAN, chemist and druggist, representative of S. Maw, Son & Sons, left estate valued at 494l. 10s., and probate of his will has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Ada Louisa Surman, 17 Argyll Street, Bath.

MR. GEORGE ERNEST GOSNELL, of Anerley, who died on October 16 last, aged fifty-three, third son of the late Mr. John Gosnell, formerly of Lombard Street and Highbury, soap and perfumery manufacturer, left estate valued at 1,349l. 5s. 9d. gross, and at 1,026l. 0s. 6d. net, and the sole executrix of his will is his widow, Mrs. Mary Gosnell.

MR. R. T. HARLAND, Hale, Cheshire, for twenty-eight years on the staff of Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, who died on November 8, aged sixty-five, left estate of the gross value of 1,245l. 4s. 2d., of which the net personalty has been sworn at 1,155l. 7s. 2d. Probate of his will has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Eliza Esther Harland, of Hale, and probate has been renounced by Mr. William Lamond Howie.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

WEDNESDAY'S meeting was short and uneventful. The President referred to the death of Mr. Flux, the Emeritus solicitor who had been professionally connected with the Society for forty-five years. Mr. Currie gave some particulars about the late Dr. A. M. Robertson, Glasgow, who was on the pharmaceutical register as long ago as 1853, his name being subsequently removed when he qualified as a medical man. A letter of congratulation was ordered to be sent to Sir Thomas Barclay on his attaining the honour of knighthood. Benevolent Fund grants amounting to 116*l.* were made, and it was announced that the fund has now received the balance of the legacy left by the late Mr. J. E. Williams. The Vice-President appealed for more subscriptions to the Fund, as the amount that will have to be paid out by the end of the year exceeds the money in hand by 100*l.* The question of refitting the Minor laboratory of the School of Pharmacy was raised by Mr. Cross, and there seems reason to expect that the work will be done during the summer recess. A small committee was appointed to consider a communication from the Privy Council regarding the possible danger to human beings from the free use of rat-virus. At the close of the meeting a letter was read from Mr. J. C. Hewlett, containing an offer to found a scholarship in memory of his father, the late Mr. C. J. Hewlett. The scholarship will be available for School of Pharmacy students who are continuing their studies for the Major, after passing the Minor examination.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held on December 2 at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C. There were present : Mr. J. R. Young (President), Mr. J. F. Harrington (Vice-President), Mr. Walter Hills (Treasurer), and Messrs. C. B. Allen, A. S. Campkin, W. G. Cross, J. H. Cuff, W. L. Currie, W. H. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, D. Gilmour, A. Hagon, J. Harrison, A. E. Hobbs, G. T. W. Newsholme, C. J. Park, P. F. Rowsell, C. Symes, E. White, and A. C. Wootton.

DEATHS.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, The PRESIDENT referred to the death of Mr. William Flux, Emeritus solicitor, who before his retirement in 1905 had been solicitor to the Society for forty-five years. The relations between the solicitor and the Society had always been of the nicest possible character. He was identified with the Society's interests and a personal friend of many of the councillors.

The TREASURER said Mr. Flux's name had been associated in his mind with the Society from his earliest recollections. Mr. Flux was thoroughly loyal to the Society and a charming personality.

Mr. CURRIE then spoke of the death of Dr. A. M. Robertson, Glasgow, the last remaining link in the West of Scotland of the band of pharmacists who met Jacob Bell when he visited Glasgow in 1853. Dr. Robertson always spoke very highly of the advantages that were put before the meeting by Jacob Bell. He was on the register of pharmaceutical chemists until 1860, when, in accordance with the Pharmacy Act 1852, his name was removed when he took the medical qualification. Dr. Robertson kept a shop where he saw patients, but the retail and dispensing were in charge of a qualified chemist. He was the oldest surviving member of the Glasgow Association that was founded in 1854.

A letter of condolence was ordered to be sent to Mr. Flux's widow.

CONGRATULATIONS.

The PRESIDENT then referred to the honour of knighthood that has been conferred on Sir Thomas Barclay, Birmingham. He is a member of the Society, and as honours

seldom come to the Society the occasion could not be passed by. The honour has given complete satisfaction in Birmingham with all political parties on account of the great interest which Sir Thomas always takes in local movements for the benefit of his fellow-men.

The PRESIDENT also mentioned that Sir Donald MacAlister, an honorary member of the Society, had had an additional honour conferred on him. As Chairman of the Pharmacopœia Committee of the General Medical Council, several members of the Council came into intimate relations with him.

RESTORATIONS.

Three members of the Society were restored to their former position, and one name was restored to the Register of Chemists and Druggists.

FINANCE.

The VICE-PRESIDENT then presented the report of the Finance Committee, of which the following is an abstract. The receipts during the month were :

Penalties and costs	...	...	£112	4	0
Subscriptions	...	...	21	0	0
"Pharmaceutical Journal" and publications	...	...	1,070	16	7
Restoration fees	...	...	2	2	0
Registration fees	...	...	48	6	0
School fees	...	...	13	13	0
			£1,268	1	7

This, with the amount brought forward from last month, made a balance of 1,585*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, from which the following amounts were recommended for payment :

On behalf of the "Journal" and publications	...	...	£735	6	3
Stationery, etc.	...	...	27	12	3
Current expenses	...	...	400	0	0
Salaries, etc.	...	...	832	10	0
School and examinations	...	...	332	19	0
Law charges	...	...	51	11	3
House	...	...	87	2	6
Library	...	...	20	17	0
			£2,487	18	3

The balances on the Benevolent Fund were as follows :

Current account	...	...	£615	6	10
(Recommended for payment, 82 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>)					
Donation account	...	...	12	5	6
Orphan fund	...	...	149	9	0

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the Benevolent Fund had received 125*l.* balance of a legacy from the late Mr. J. E. Williams, and a donation of 20*l.* from Mr. W. Tasker. He called attention to the fact that the amounts recommended for payment from the Benevolent Fund during December totalled 750*l.* and that the amount in hand was insufficient to meet this.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was considered in committee, after which

Mr. Cross moved the adoption of the report. He said that if he were a sensitive person he might have hesitated to move such a report, but in none of the cases could the relief proposed to be given be withheld. This being the end of the year the committee had come to the end of their finances, and there is a considerable shortage. He was, however, hopeful that within the next four weeks subscriptions would come in to meet the deficiency. Grants amounting to 116*l.* were recommended, and, in addition, the quarterly payments to the annuitants will take 500*l.*

Mr. ROWSELL said he would like to state that in every case considered the committee took into account the incidence of the State Old-age Pension.

The report was adopted, and a resolution was carried to pay at Christmas the annuities of the successful candidates at the Benevolent Fund election next week.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School and House Committee was next presented by the Treasurer. The chief items were the receipt from Dr. Bela Augustin of the specimens of work of the students of the Budapest School of Pharmacy which were exhibited at the Hungarian Exhibition. Letters of thanks are to be sent to the donor. Messrs. Parkinson's accounts for 24l. 12s. were approved, and an order given for work on a staircase in Galen Place which was declared to be dangerous. Plans for an emergency exit from the chemical laboratory were discussed, and authority given to the Chairman to proceed with the matter. The director of the pharmaceutical research laboratory reported that a paper by himself and Mr. Griffiths on the "Microscopical Identification of Green Extracts" was ready for publication, and permission was granted for the paper to be read at the next evening meeting of the Society.

Mr. Cross asked when it was intended to proceed with the refitting of the Minor laboratory.

The TREASURER said he was only too anxious to see the work carried out, and trusted that the Finance Committee would allow it to be done next August. If some benefactor would offer the Society 500l. for the purpose he did not think they would be too proud to accept it.

Dr. SYMES said that the results obtained in the Major laboratory had been quite adequate to the expenditure. It is necessary, however, to move slowly, as there are constantly expenses to meet.

Mr. ALLEN said an effort should be made to get this work completed as soon as possible, otherwise the Society would not be doing all that could be done for those students who have to work in the old laboratory.

The PRESIDENT: It is all a question of ways and means. The report was adopted.

APPRENTICES REGISTERED.

The Registrar's monthly report on registrations as apprentices or students showed that twenty-two apprentices had been registered.

SUPERINTENDENTS.

The following superintendents and deputy-superintendents of written examinations were appointed. *London*: Mr. C. B. Allen and Mr. Harry Moon. *Edinburgh*: Mr. C. F. Henry and Mr. J. Nesbit. *Manchester*: Mr. Harry Kemp and Mr. C. Swion.

Four additional divisional secretaries were appointed.

PARLIAMENTARY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE.

The report of this committee stated that the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill was read a first time on November 25, and was down for second reading on that day. The committee also considered a letter sent by the Privy Council referring to an inquest upon a child who had been given a cough-mixture containing a scheduled poison sold by the wife of a chemist. A letter in reply was drafted informing the Privy Council that the evidence at the inquest was insufficient to justify the Society taking proceedings under the Pharmacy Act. The branch shop carried on by the chemist concerned has been the subject of investigation, but as far as can be ascertained no poison is sold there in the absence of a qualified person. The Privy Council also called the attention of the Society to the report of the Medical Officer of Health for the City of London with reference to the possible dangers of vermin-destroying virus, and requested the observations of the Council of the Society. This the committee considered, and recommended the appointment of a sub-committee of the President, Treasurer, and Mr. White to see what steps can be taken to assist the department.

Mr. WOOTTON: Will the report of this sub-committee come before the Council?

The PRESIDENT: Yes.

TRADE-UNION LAW.

Mr. GIFFORD asked what effect the decision in the Court of Appeal on the previous Saturday would have on the proposal to send a delegate of the Society to the House of Commons.

The PRESIDENT: That would be an interesting subject for debate.

RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED.

The following Associations forwarded resolutions respecting the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill: Carlisle, Great Yarmouth, Lincoln, Scarborough, West Ham, and Worcester. Resolutions passed at special meetings held to consider the Council's attitude in regard to the Bill were received from London, Birmingham, Bath, Nottingham and Plymouth.

Mr. ALLEN, referring to the meeting and dinner at Plymouth which he attended with Mr. Glyn-Jones, Mr. Row-sell, and Mr. Park, said there was all through a note of loyalty to the Society and sympathy with its work which he had never known equalled at any gathering.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Privy Council transmitted an Order in Council approving the appointment of examiners for the year 1909.

A member of the Society applying for a new certificate to replace one that he had lost, and having made a statutory declaration to the effect that it was not in existence, had his request granted.

A HEWLETT PRIZE.

A letter was read from Mr. J. C. Hewlett announcing his intention of founding a prize in the School of Pharmacy in memory of his father, the late Mr. C. J. Hewlett, who was one of the early members of the Society. He proposed to transfer to the Society 500l. Water Board Stock, the interest to be devoted to paying in perpetuity an annual exhibition to the student in the junior course who, not being a Bell scholar, obtains the highest number of marks in the school examination, one condition of the payment to be that the student proceeds to the senior course with the object of taking the higher qualification.

The PRESIDENT moved that a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Hewlett. The prize would be an additional incentive to students to proceed to the Major.

The letter was referred to the School Committee for consideration and report.

This concluded the public business.

The Week's Poisonings.

THREE deaths have occurred from Part II. poisons during the week, two cases being suicidal. A verdict of suicide while of unsound mind was returned at the inquest on Thomas Hodgkinson, stoker, Southport, who died from laudanum-poisoning. Deceased had been drinking heavily, and three bottles of laudanum were found in his room.—John L. Quilt, Sefton Park, was depressed owing to pecuniary troubles, and ended them by taking carbolic acid.—William Hiscock (56) died at Kentish Town from the effects of oxalic-acid poisoning. An open verdict was returned, as it was thought he may have mistaken the acid for Epsom salts. The Coroner said the vendor might have given deceased a wrong packet.—Attempts at suicide by poisoning have been unusually frequent during the week.—William Ellis, an East Finchley carman, taking "belladonna"; Frederick Dettman, machinist, Leamington Spa, trying laudanum for the purpose; while Mary Hay, Coundon, used oxalic acid. Arthur Saunders (17), Holloway, attempted suicide by taking sulphate of zinc, and the police-constable on duty administered another emetic. A Finchley servant, named Lizzie Smith, took an unspecified poison. Joseph Bade, a Bolton blind boy, drank turpentine in attempting to end his existence.

SALVADORA FAT.—Mr. David Hooper, F.C.S., F.L.S., calls attention in the "Agricultural Ledger" (1908. No. 1) to a useful solid white fat expressed from the seeds of the pilu or jhal (*Salvadora oleoides*), a small tree or shrub growing in Northern India. The fat is regularly employed in Cutch in the manufacture of "bangalas," or outer garments of Cutchee ladies, being applied as a "resist" in the process of dyeing. The oil or fat occasionally finds its way to Bombay, and is probably used for other purposes. Chemical examination shows that it has a different composition from ordinary Indian fats, and its properties would recommend it for candle-making and similar industrial purposes, it having a much higher melting-point than coconut oil, palm oil, and cocoa butter. Mr. Hooper gives full details concerning the use of the fat in dyeing.

Winter Session of Chemists' Associations.

Association Presidents.

THE new President of the Birkenhead and Wirral Chemists' Association is Mr. Francis C. Cooling, Ph.C., Oxton, who is



MR. COOLING.

one of those who founded the body four years ago, and was its first Secretary. He had another term of the secretaryship last session, and his work in that capacity all through was recognised by his promotion to the Presidential chair. Mr. Cooling was born at Bath about the time that the 1868 Pharmacy Act became law. In due course he was sent to King Edward's Grammar School there, then to Malcombe Regis School, Weymouth. He served his apprenticeship with Mr. Wilson, of Messrs. Commons & Wilson, Bath, and passed the Minor examination on October 17, 1889. He then went to Brighton as an assistant for about two years, then returned to London to study for the Major, which he passed on February 25, 1892. After this he had experience in Liverpool and London (Baily's, Hampstead, and Bedford's, City). He went north again in 1899 to take over the pharmacy at 29 Christchurch Road, Oxton, Birkenhead, and has had no reason to regret the venture, for, in addition to the respect of his *confrères*, he has commanded the confidence of a good business *clientèle*.

Brief Records.

Local Matters chiefly occupied the attention of the Northampton and District Chemists' Association at the monthly meeting on December 1. Messrs. G. Ingle (President), W. D. Mayger, W. McKinnell, Donald McKinnell, H. Rolfe, J. Flinton Harris, and Mr. F. Cowdery (Hon. Sec.) were present.

The Title "Pharmacist."—The Huddersfield and District Chemists' Association, at their monthly meeting held at the Queen's Hotel, Huddersfield, on Tuesday evening, December 1, discussed the title question. Mr. R. C. Walshaw (President) spoke in favour of the recognition of the title of "pharmacist," and it was resolved that when the Poisons Bill becomes law an effort should be made locally to familiarise the public with that title.

A Private Conference of the members of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, November 25, when Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, at the request of the committee, gave an address on "The Fundamental Principles of the Pharmaceutical Society's Charter and the Pharmacy Acts, 1852 and 1858, affected by the Government Poisons and Pharmacy Bill."

The Parliamentary Fund.—A meeting of the North Kent and District Chemists' Association was held at the Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich, on Thursday, November 26, Mr. A. Goldthorne (President) in the chair. After the routine business a discussion took place upon the "President's Parliamentary Fund." Several members, while approving its formation, expressed the opinion that local associations would know better how to proceed if a definite pronouncement was officially issued to them, so that uniform and simultaneous action could be taken.

In South Africa.—At the monthly meeting of the Barnsley and District Chemists' Association held on Thursday, November 26, Mr. J. Jones presiding, an interesting paper was read by Mr. D. T. Jones, on behalf of his brother Mr. J. E. Jones, of Burnham, on "A Chemist's Experience in South Africa." Commencing with a recital of the negotiations that led to his journeying there, and of the life aboard ship, Mr. Jones dealt with the many phases of business met with in Cape Colony, Transvaal, and Orange River Colony, and wound up by relating his experiences in Mafeking during the long and memorable siege. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him.

Not Codex Française.—At a meeting of the members of the Leeds Chemists' Association, held at the Grand Restaurant, Leeds, on Wednesday evening, November 25, Mr. F. P. Sarreant (President) in the chair, Mr. J. H. Beacock read "Notes and Examples of Codex and Supplement Preparations," in which he gave the results of his experience in

making and selling a number of articles, including many old favourites, samples of which were exhibited. A discussion followed, in which the President, Messrs. Pollitt, Branson, Norfolk, and Fourness took part. After Mr. Beacock had been thanked, the President announced that the Harrogate Chemists' Association had invited the Leeds members to attend a meeting at Harrogate on December 12, at which the President of the Pharmaceutical Society is to speak.

At Margate.—The monthly meeting of the Isle of Thanet Chemists' Association was held at the Metropole Hotel, Margate, on Thursday, November 26, Mr. Hewlett (President) in the chair. Messrs. Arrowsmith, Baily, Eastland, Holmes, Gibbs, Keene, Rosser, Weston, Wools, and Parry were also present. The proposed Buying Club was successfully started, rules were adopted, and a long list of articles decided upon. The possibilities of successfully running an Association speciality were then debated. Mr. Arrowsmith showed samples of what he considered a suitable preparation, and it was decided to bring up the subject again at a future meeting. The need of a new Pharmaceutical Council was introduced by Mr. Gibbs, and as an outcome of the discussion it is hoped a candidate may be found in East Kent before the next election.

Edinburgh Trade.—The opening meeting of the Edinburgh Chemists' Trade Association was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Monday evening, November 30. Mr. C. A. Macpherson in the chair. Mr. John Muir, Crichton Place, Edinburgh, was elected a member. Mr. C. F. Henry, reporting as to the proposed employment bureau for advising and selecting pupils leaving school for the most suitable calling, stated that the School Board ascertained that they had no authority to assess the ratepayers for such a purpose, but since that time the Scottish Education Department had sanctioned the bureau. Mr. G. H. C. Rowland (Hon. Secretary) submitted the report of the delegates to the meeting of the Federation in Aberdeen in September. It recommended that the Association Committee should frame suggestions regarding a constitution of the Federation and report to a future meeting, and was approved. The Chairman delivered an address, in which he recalled that the Association had entered upon its seventeenth year and had done some useful work during its career. He then touched upon the sale of poisons and the regulations in regard thereto. Speaking of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill, he said it was bad, and even its apologists were not enamoured of it. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Macpherson for his address. The report of the Formulary Committee was submitted and adopted, and after some other business the meeting closed.

Pharmacy Evils.—At a meeting of the Cheltenham and District Chemists' Association, held at 5 Promenade on Thursday, November 26, Mr. J. A. Thomas (Vice-President) was in the chair, and Messrs. F. T. Palmer, W. Minchin, W. H. Hampton, H. B. Clarke, W. Palmer, T. T. Dolman, C. H. James, W. Barrow, T. W. Bolton, J. P. James, A. E. Lane, T. H. Hawley, and W. H. Hill (Hon. Secretary) were also present. Mr. W. Palmer read an interesting paper on "Some Evils in Present-Day Pharmacy, with Suggestions for their Alleviation." He said the four troubles which most beset chemists are company pharmacy, the store chemist, quack remedies, and the prescribing by medical men of branded medicines and galenicals. For multiple shops his remedy was personality. The store chemist being a subject of too controversial a character, he passed it for the other two problems. As to quack remedies, he deplored the help given by the P.A.T.A. to some of them, and said that some day Government must step in and say that no proprietary medicine shall be sold unless the composition is plainly stated on the label. His remedy for the last evil was the formation of a British Institution of Applied Pharmacy, whose duty should be:

1. To keep in touch with the advancement of science and the evolution of medical thought.
2. To watch carefully the rise into prominence of any new remedies, and to devise and publish suitable forms for the administration of the same.
3. To carry out research work for the improvement of old galenicals with regard to their efficiency and elegance.
4. To fix physiological standards for those patent drugs which do not admit of chemical estimation.
5. To carry out both chemical and physiological standardisation for retail chemists for a small covering fee.
6. To bring the result of their work month by month before the meetings of the institute and all the medical men in the kingdom.
7. To embody the result of their work in a practical form in subsequent editions of the B.P. Codex.

Most of the members present spoke on the paper, and the Chairman warmly thanked Mr. Palmer.

Chemists and Companies.—A meeting of the Keighley Chemists' Association was held at the Devonshire Hotel, Keighley, on Thursday, November 26, Mr. A. S. Dean (President) in the chair. The chief business of the meeting was the President's report of the dinner of the West Riding Federation of Chemists' Associations (*C. & D.*, November 21, p. 795). Mr. Dean spoke strongly against the action of the official organ of the Pharmaceutical Society in cutting out of the report of the proceedings of the dinner any mention of hostility in connection with the Government Poisons and Pharmacy Bill. He then gave the gist of what each speaker said at the dinner, and asked who had given the Government the right to juggle with the title? It appeared to him that if that sort of thing went on it would be a puzzle to find out where the Pharmaceutical Society came in. The parasitic order of drug-stores had had too much time given to be shaken off now. If, as Mr. Smithies had remarked at the dinner, the West Riding Federation had been in existence some years ago, neither Taylor's drug-stores nor Boots' would have sprung into reality. That, of course, brought to their mind the old saying that it was too late to lock the stable-door after the horse had gone. When they thought of the tendency to cheapen the value of drugs, etc., which had been brought about by the large stores they sometimes overlooked the fact that not only should a man be paid a reasonable price for an article, but he should be paid for his time and his experience as well. He knew perfectly well that the companies based their ideas of business on as large a turnover as possible, but was there not a possibility in doing that of missing the right side, and, instead of serving the public in an honourable manner, stooping to false methods? He agreed that they did not perhaps suffer actually so much as a result of the companies trading as they did from the trading of grocers and small shopkeepers, for they could not expect to sell some preparations which it was possible to obtain at almost every street-corner. To say the least of it, they had in more than one sense cut their own throats. A discussion followed, as to which we have received no particulars.

Surgical Instruments.—This was the subject discussed at last week's meeting of the Chemists' Assistants' Association, held at 73 Newman Street, London, W., on November 26. Mr. H. Lewis read a paper about it, in which he commenced by advising chemists to supply surgical instruments, a line for which they are well adapted, and which is profitable in obtaining the confidence of the physician, surgeon, and patient. He advised laying in small supplies only, a full stock costing up to 10,000*l.*, while the many different instruments can be procured as required. A point in ordering is to ask the surgeon to pick out from the list the illustration and number of the article required. This procedure frequently avoids much subsequent annoyance and argument. The stock should comprise a range of catheters, hypodermic syringes, and a supply of surgical scissors, the public being also good customers for the last-named. While ordinary dressings are usually kept, the surgeon appreciates a fresh supply of antiseptic dressings, particularly cyanide gauze and boric lint, and a good investment, well worth considering, is a steriliser for dressings at a cost of from two to ten guineas. An operating-table, which costs about five guineas, and is hired out at 10*s.* to 15*s.* each operation, is frequently another paying investment. Knives are liable to get blunt and rusty, and should not be stocked; moreover, if an operation goes wrong, the fault, according to the surgeon, is that of the instrument or some similar cause, but it is an advantage if the chemist could set and keep in order surgeons' knives. Oxygen in cylinders yields a good profit, and only one cylinder need be kept, while frequently a stock of nitrous-oxide gas is advisable. The foregoing remarks refer to suitable neighbourhoods. Mr. Lewis did not see why chemists should not fit trusses and stockings. They require but little practice, and the measurements are simple and easy. He found that the truss requires to be moulded a little. The profits are good, trusses costing from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* selling at 5*s.* to 1*l.* 1*s.* The measuring and fitting were then briefly demonstrated and described. Unfortunately, few makers can afford to allow good discount on surgical instruments, so that the desired profit must be added to list-price. The danger of using any but high-class hand-forged instruments having been illustrated, the lecturer proceeded with concise descriptions of the instruments exhibited. The mode of using Esmarch's rubber tourniquet and the Navy and Army field pattern was then shown, as also Davy's staff tourniquet for compression of the iliac artery in hip-joint amputations. Hook and bristle probangs for the extraction of coins or fish-bones, etc., respectively were followed with a humorous description of the flute-key stomach-pump. The method of using lithotomy staffs for the excision of stone in the bladder and a lithotrite for crushing stone were next described. Other instruments exhibited were bullet probes, hydrocele trochar, urethrotome for cutting strictures, scoop forceps and curette for the removal of adenoids, tonsil guillotine, Bryant's and

Spencer-Wells' artery forceps, Bellocq's epistaxis canula, Durham's tracheotomy tube with lobster pilot, and Murphy's button for uniting the severed intestine. The simple requirements for the cure of strabismus (squint) and trephine for trepanning were objects of special interest at the subsequent closer inspection of the instruments, as also a urethra dilator stated to be possibly used in China as an instrument of torture.

Analytical Papers.—At the monthly meeting of the Society of Public Analysts and other Analytical Chemists at Burlington House on Wednesday, December 2, the first paper was on "THE GRAVIMETRIC ESTIMATION OF ANTIMONY AND TIN," by Mr. Cahen and Dr. G. T. Morgan. The authors find that the method of Vortman and Metzel, in which the antimony is precipitated as sulphide from a solution in hydrochloric and phosphoric acids, and weighed as such, gives perfectly satisfactory results so far as the antimony is concerned, but is subject to the defects that no oxidising agent must be present and that the tin is left in such a state as to be difficult of subsequent estimation. The method of Henz, which, in the absence of any considerable quantity of lead, gives accurate results, is therefore preferred. In this the solution of the sulpho-salts is first oxidised with hydrogen peroxide, then oxalic acid added, and the antimony sulphide precipitated with hydrogen sulphide, or the antimony may be deposited electrolytically from a sulphide-solution containing sodium sulphite or potassium cyanide, using a rotating cathode. In the second paper a further Carapa oil, from *Carapa guyanensis*, was described by Dr. Lewkowitsch, and this was followed by a paper on "THE DETECTION AND ESTIMATION OF FORMALDEHYDE IN MILK," by Messrs. H. E. Shrewsbury and A. W. Knapp, who recommend the use of a reagent consisting of a mixture of nitric and hydrochloric acids for the purpose. The reagent is added to the milk, and the mixture heated in a water-bath, when a heliotrope to violet colour is produced in the presence of formaldehyde, and the colour obtained can be matched by making standards containing known amounts of formaldehyde. The best tints are obtained with milk containing from 0.2 to 6 parts per million of formaldehyde. Experiments with boiled, sour, and borated milk showed that in no case was the accuracy of the process invalidated. The next paper was on "THE DETERMINATION OF ALDEHYDES IN OIL OF LEMON," by Mr. C. H. Bennett, in which the author described a modification of the hydroxylamine-hydrochloride method, substituting 8 c.c. normal alcoholic potash for the sodium bicarbonate formerly recommended to be added. The process consists in boiling under a reflux condenser 20 c.c. lemon oil with 20 c.c. of a 5-per-cent. solution of hydroxylamine hydrochloride in the presence of alcohol, adding also 8 c.c. normal alcoholic potash, titrating back first to phenolphthalein, and then to methyl orange, a blank experiment being carried out at the same time. In this way the author finds practically all oils to contain 4 to 5 per cent. aldehydes, the proportion being higher in oils from the east than from other parts of Sicily, and the earlier oil up to March being the richer. An application of this process to the fractions obtained from a distillation by Burgess and Child's method show that even the first 10 per cent. contain about 0.1 per cent. aldehydes, and the next 80 per cent. over 1.0 per cent., but otherwise the two processes agree fairly well. In the discussion Mr. Chapman welcomed the paper as showing that the Sicilian chemists are at last coming into line with analysts over here, and abandoning the old figure of 7 to 8 per cent. aldehydes in lemon oil. The last paper was by Mr. C. H. Cribb, and dealt with the composition of commercial cream-cheese.

Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.

A MEETING of the Law Committee of this Society was held at 11 Waring Street, Belfast, on November 30, Mr. S. Gibson, J.P., presiding.

POISONS AND PHARMACY BILL.—The position of this Bill was fully considered, as the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland are pressing for several amendments in the interests of pharmaceutical chemists; and as they have intimated to the Chemists' and Druggists' Society that they have been unable to induce the Attorney-General to agree to extend the benefits of the widows clause to the representatives of deceased chemists and druggists and registered druggists in Ireland, it was decided to write to Mr. Cherry, the Attorney-General, Mr. Herbert Samuel, and Mr. Idris on the matter, and follow it up with a deputation to London to secure, if possible, this concession.

Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING was held at 10 Emmanuel Street on Thursday, November 26, the President (Mr. Bernhard S. Campkin) in the chair. There was a good attendance, including Messrs. A. Sidney Campkin, J.P., H. F. Cook, J.P., E. S. Peck,

M.A., Flanders, Church, Evans, Deck, Palmer, Green-smith, Young, Harris, Course, Pratt, and T. J. Mallett (Hon. Secretary). A lecture was delivered by Mr. W. J. Young, L.R.C.P.L., M.R.C.S.E., on

THE LIMITATIONS OF COUNTER-PRESCRIBING.

For upwards of an hour and forty minutes the lecturer discoursed learnedly, eloquently, and poetically, and the marvellously humorous way in which he referred to some of the "tricks of the trade," together with the rich fund of narrative collated from his experience as a chemist, delighted the audience, while the kindly counsel and useful information given as the result of his practice as a medical man will not be readily forgotten. After a review of past aspects of the subject and the attempts which have been made from time to time to control quackery, the lecturer pointed out how common is the habit of prescribing outside medicine, and even pharmacy. Granting, therefore, that the chemist must occasionally prescribe, the lecturer glanced at (1) what he is free to do; (2) what he should not do; and (3) what he cannot be expected to refrain from doing.

The following paragraphs summarise what he said:

1. The chemist is at perfect liberty to put into a bottle ingredients and label the bottle a cure for coughs, colds, bronchitis, asthma, consumption, spitting of blood, etc. The law allows it, and the Government provides a stamp with the words "This stamp implies no Government guarantee." And, added the doctor, "if you are careful how you stick on the stamp you can make it read 'Government guarantee' only." (Great laughter and applause.) This is what you are perfectly free to do; no one can challenge your right to pack remedies in this way for nearly every disease.

2. Alluding to the "top-hat brigade," Dr. Young said he did not for a moment suppose that any chemist in Cambridge indulged in the practices of these gentry. But it was carried on in other places, and no self-respecting chemist but would agree with him in condemning this reprehensible practice. In prescribing they should keep to simple remedies, always remembering that if poisons were prescribed in accordance with the Pharmacy Act the bottle or vessel must be labelled "Poison." Keep to simple remedies and they could then do no harm. Avoid using cocaine in extracting teeth. Never under any circumstances treat abortion or give remedies. Avoid "lumps": the earlier these are attended to by a medical man the better.

3. Dr. Young dealt with a number of the everyday applications for treatment by chemists, and imparted much useful information and advice as to the course of action to be adopted and precautionary measures to be followed in indigestion, amenorrhœa, sore mouth, pains in the joints, burns, bruises and sprains, biliousness, children teething, diarrhœa, (infantile and adult) headache, inflamed eyes, constipation, piles, syphilis, and gonorrhœa.

Alderman Campkin moved a vote of thanks, which Mr. H. F. Cook seconded. A short discussion followed, in which Messrs. Deck, Evans, Palmer, Flanders, and Church took part, and Dr. Young replied, answering various questions.

Bradford Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Royal Hotel, Bradford, on Thursday, November 26, Mr. D. S. Priestley (President) in the chair, when Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant, Leeds, delivered a lecture on

HORTICULTURAL POISONS.

In his introductory remarks Mr. Sargeant said his subject has not received the attention it deserves. He touched upon proposed legislation and the necessity for chemists supplying all legitimate demands for such articles, so that any accusation that they ignored the demand should not be brought truthfully. The importation in ever-increasing quantity of foreign fruits and plants has brought about an increase in the varieties of insect pests. The growth of flowers and fruits under glass has increased enormously during the past few years, and not only has the professional horticulturist learned to appreciate the value financially of forcing growth, but the number of amateur growers has considerably increased. But the very conditions which stimulate the plant to abnormal efforts are those which foster insect life, and so it may be safely prophesied that the demand for poisonous substances for use in horticulture will grow in the future even more quickly than it has done in the past.

The most important poisonous substance used in horticulture is hydrocyanic acid, and the Board of Agriculture

and Fisheries has issued a pamphlet indicating the general methods to be employed in its use. The usual procedure is to wrap a small amount of alkaline cyanide in thin blotting-paper and drop this into an earthen bowl containing dilute sulphuric acid. There are simple contrivances on the market by which the cyanide and sulphuric acid are not brought into contact until the operator is well out of the way of the dangerous fumes. Though potassium cyanide is mentioned as the source of the gas in the official pamphlet, sodium cyanide is more frequently used; 100 parts by weight of it are equal, in cyanide-content, to 130 parts of potassium cyanide, hence it is put on the market as 130-per-cent. cyanide—a term which is apt to confuse. The quantity of cyanide necessary to free a greenhouse of insect pests depends entirely on the nature of the insects. One drachm of sodium cyanide with about 2 dr. of sulphuric acid and 4 dr. of water to each thousand cubic feet of space is sufficient to kill green-fly, white-fly, etc., but this strength has little effect on scale insects, red spider, and mealy bug. For these latter insects up to eight times the above strength may be used. Above this strength delicate foliage will be injured, if not killed. The action of hydrocyanic-acid gas on the leaves of plants is somewhat peculiar, for, while it does not affect the leaves of palms, dracenas, and even maiden-hair ferns, it causes the leaves of the musk-plant, *Mimulus moschatus*, to shrivel up and die. It has a detrimental effect on plants with succulent leaves such as *Asparagus Sprengii*. Even when highly diluted it kills the young foliage of many plants, particularly roses, cucumbers, and carnations. Fumigation with hydrocyanic acid should always be carried out in the evening, the house should be reasonably dry and the temperature should not be higher than about 50° C. A whole house of cucumbers was completely destroyed by fumigating at a high temperature, but most of the failures reported in the use of hydrocyanic acid are attributable to the presence of excess of moisture. In ordinary circumstances it is advisable to err at first on the side of weakness, carefully noting any slight injury to foliage. Having ascertained the maximum strength which the plants will stand, the house should be fumigated once weekly for three weeks. This will completely free the house from all insect pests. Cases have arisen in the lecturer's experience where some variation is necessary. In one instance a climber at the top of a large house was infested with fly, and normal fumigations appeared to have little effect. In this case the amount of acid was increased and some granulated zinc was introduced with the sodium cyanide. The liberated hydrogen, rising to the top of the house, carried the hydrocyanic-acid fumes with it, and the desired effect was obtained without using an undue excess of cyanide. If, on the other hand, there be tender growths at the top of the house and the principal effect of the insecticide be required near the floor, varying quantities of chalk could be used, when the heavy carbon dioxide would retard the rising of the poisonous gas. The efficacy of these variations has been proved.

Potassium cyanide is also used by gardeners and others for the destruction of wasps. Cotton wool is soaked in a saturated aqueous solution, and this is plugged into the mouth of the nest. Nicotine is the next important poisonous substance used by horticulturists. It has almost entirely displaced the old-fashioned tobacco-paper, fumigating-cones, etc., though in time it is highly probable that it will have to give place to hydrocyanic acid, which is cheaper and more effective yet requires a more discriminating use. The variety of methods in which nicotine may be used offers a wide scope to the ingenuity and professional aptitude of the chemist. Many of the preparations on the market lose much of their effectiveness through errors in compounding. Nicotine is an effective insecticide only so far as aphides and similar pests are concerned. For mealy bug, red spider, scale insects, etc., it is not nearly so effective as hydrocyanic acid. There are two principal methods by which nicotine may be applied—as a spray or in the form of vapour, the latter being the better. There are many objections to the uses of insecticides in the form of spray, the most important of which is that the process irreparably ruins delicate foliage and bloom. Where a spray can be used it is highly probable that the liquid without the nicotine would be as effective as with it. In any case a spray solu-

tion made by dissolving a little soft soap in an infusion of quassia would kill practically all insects which a nicotine emulsion would affect. The great value of nicotine is its volatility, hence its use in fumigating. In an ideal fumigant the ingredients should volatilise together at a temperature not exceeding 220° C., and the density of the vapour should not much exceed that of air. A suitable insecticide for use as a wash or spray may be made from the following formula :

Nicotine	...	...	...	2
Methylated spirit	...	...	...	5
Soft soap	...	...	...	8
Infusion of quassia to	...	...	...	100

Such a wash, prepared *secundum artem*, is miscible with water, and before use it should be diluted by the addition of forty times its own volume for aphides, while for red spider, thrips, and mealy bug it should be used double or even quadruple this strength. Nicotine preparations for fumigating contain from 10 to 30 per cent. of the alkaloid; they nearly all contain camphor, methylated spirit, and various volatile oils. A suitable compound may be made as follows :

Nicotine	...	...	...	30
Camphor	...	...	...	5
Naphthaline	...	...	...	5
Oil of camphor	...	...	...	25
Oil of citronella	...	...	...	20
Methylated spirit to	...	...	...	100

Half-an-ounce of such a compound is generally sufficient for each thousand cubic feet of space. It should be placed in a porcelain evaporating-dish on a tripod over a spirit-lamp, the operator then leaving the house, which should not be re-entered for at least two hours. The conditions which are necessary for successful fumigation with nicotine are the same as those mentioned in the use of hydrocyanic acid. Nicotine has been used with success as an ant-destroyer, a suitable preparation being composed of lard, suet, 10 per cent. of nicotine, and a little oil of anise. This should be coloured with a little chlorophyll. Strips of wood smeared with this paste are placed about the haunts of the insects. Nicotine has also been used successfully as a sheep-dip.

Arsenious oxide is used by the horticulturist principally in strongly alkaline solution as a weed-killer. Much has been written of late, and many experiments have been made, with a view to ascertain whether or not the arsenic is necessary. Mr. Rutherford Hill and others have stated that it is the alkali alone which kills the weeds. Strong alkalies and acids destroy vegetation; they have been used alone for that purpose for many years, but the lecturer has been quite unable to confirm the opinion that the arsenic is useless. Arsenical weed-killer is prepared by boiling equal weights of arsenious oxide and sodium hydroxide in water, and thus making a solution containing 10 per cent. of the oxide. This concentrated preparation is diluted by the addition of 98 per cent. of water before using. The arsenious oxide and soda are sometimes supplied in the solid form. When on treatment with a small quantity of water sufficient heat is generated to effect solution. If, however, too much water be added the bulk of the arsenic is left undissolved. Weed-killers should be used in the evening in fine weather only. Arsenious oxide is also used as an ant-destroyer, and for this purpose it may be made into a paste with lard. A more usual method is to mix the arsenic with honey and water. A good ant-destroyer may be made by using

Arsenious oxide	...	...	...	5
Sugar	...	...	...	25
Liquid glucose	...	...	...	20
Flour	...	...	...	50 or sufficient to form a paste

A little oil of anise appears to attract the insects, but more than a trace repels them. The paste should be coloured green, and a little should be placed here and there on the staging of the greenhouse and in the nests if they can be located.

Paris green (aceto-arsenite of copper) is not used so much by the indoor cultivator as by the fruit-grower. It is used for the destruction of the caterpillars of the various moths which attack apple, pear, and other fruit-trees. It is applied in the form of a spray in which from 0.05 to 0.5

part of Paris green in paste or fine powder is incorporated with 100 parts of water, with or without an equal quantity of freshly slaked lime. Lead arsenate, used for the same purpose, is prepared by dissolving 0.06 part sodium arsenate and 0.18 part lead acetate separately in 50 parts of water, mixing the solution and adding 1 part of treacle. Ferric arsenate is used for the destruction of beetles, cockroaches, etc. It is supplied under a proprietary name, and not only is it not labelled "Poison," but it is stated to be quite harmless to domestic animals and to human beings. This is probably done without knowledge.

A solution of mercuric chloride is sometimes used as a worm-destroyer, the strength being about 0.2 per cent. After sprinkling, the worms rise to the surface and should be collected and burnt, for if poultry or other birds eat the worms they will die. A strong infusion of mustard or a weak emulsion of oil of mustard makes an effective substitute for this.

Carbolic acid is used as a weed-killer and for other purposes, but generally in conjunction with arsenic, etc. There is a tendency at present towards the extensive use of substances to be mixed with the soil for the destruction of wire-worms and other subterranean pests. The lecturer threw out a warning that substances of a bactericidal nature persistently employed will result in the permanent deterioration of the soil.

The lecture was illustrated with specimens of insects detrimental to plants, and insecticides and apparatus employed for spraying and fumigating.

A discussion followed in which the President and Messrs. Firth, Stead, Dutton, and Penly took part, and Mr. Sargeant, in reply, stated that carbon bisulphide is useful for wire-worms, but too expensive when the area is large. As ladybirds destroy aphides, great care should be taken not to destroy them and their larvae. On the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. Stead, a cordial vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. Sargeant.

Festivities.

Sunderland Diners.

The forty-fifth annual dinner of the Sunderland Chemists' Association, held at the Grand Hotel on November 25, was one of the most successful in the Association's history. Mr. E. R. Cherrett presided, and among the guests were the Town Clerk, the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. J. Middlemass, and Messrs. T. M. Clague and W. Pescod (President and Secretary, Newcastle Chemists' Association). There were also present Alderman J. Harrison, Alderman H. J. Turnbull, Messrs. C. Ranken, G. P. Fairman, R. H. Bell, A. D. Purse, T. Walton, R. Anderson, C. Hodgson, J. W. Todd, J. G. Harrison, R. Robinson, C. E. Fairley, W. Nimmo, R. C. Thursfield (Hon. Secretary), Kerse and Rutherford (J. Ismay & Sons), T. Swales (Leeds), Alex. Turnbull (B. W. & Co.), C. E. Layne, Gray, Park, Bunt, and others. The catering was excellent. In the long toast-list that of "The Pharmaceutical Society" was responded to by Alderman J. Harrison, who described the present position of pharmaceutical politics. Mr. C. E. Layne proposed "The Sunderland Chemists' and Kindred Associations" in his inimitable style, reminding certain members of "the days of their youth." Mr. Cherrett and Mr. Clague replied. A Newcastle trio contributed musical items to the enjoyable evening, the musical programme, which was highly appreciated, being reinforced by two turns from the local theatre.

"A Host in Himself."

A COMFORTABLE CHAIR in Steinway Hall on a Saturday afternoon, and a thoroughly good musical entertainment, constitute one of the things one gets in London which are not obtainable everywhere else. When the entertainment has distinction as well as quality one forgets the bright sunshine and crisp autumn air outside. This was the feeling that Mr. Trevor Rollyatt produced by his one-man entertainment the other week. This artist is not unknown in pharmacy, and this gave piquancy to the entertainment. Mr. Rollyatt had "two friends" to assist him—

the pianola and the gramophone—and the only distraction was the way in which the programme was produced. The words were so witty and his way of stating facts so quaint that one turned to it now and then when the pianola was on. The entertainment was in two parts, the first "grave," but not sombre; the second "gay." Mr. Rollyatt showed that he has an excellent voice, keen appreciation for sentiment as well as humour, and considerable histrionic power. He sang more than a dozen pieces in the afternoon without symptoms of tire, and by the end of the programme he had shown his ability to amuse, interest, and please a critical audience. He is the sort of entertainer who must be a boon to those who have to worry about musical programmes, since on the touch-the-button principle he does the rest.

Optimism in the West.

THE fifteenth annual dinner of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Chemists' Association was held in the Palm Court of the Royal Hotel, Plymouth, on November 25, Mr. H. D. Davey in the chair. There was an excellent attendance of members. The visitors included Mr. C. B. Allen (Kilburn) and Mr. P. F. Rowsell, J.P., F.C.S. (Exeter) (members of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society), Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, Mr. H. Wippell Gadd, Mr. T. Tickle, and Mr. J. Stuart Hills. The vice-chairs were occupied by Mr. R. F. Roper and Mr. H. H. Cannon. There were also present Messrs. A. J. Ancliffe, A. Barber, J. Barge, F. J. Barge, F. W. Broom, Jas. Cocks, F. A. Goodwin, E. W. H. Green, H. P. Hearder, F. W. Hunt, J. E. Knight, F. Maitland, W. Martin, J. Palmer, S. A. Perkins, F. A. Spear, J. Davy Turney, W. Condy U'Ren, W. H. Woods, T. Tickle, T. W. Ginn (solicitor), W. Hoole, and T. M. Cuthbertson, L.D.S. The menu was in classical Latin, the work of Mr. J. Kinton-Bond, an old friend of the Association, and it also contained excellent photographs of Mr. H. D. Davey (the President) and Mr. Robert F. Roper.

After the loyal toast Mr. Roper proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," to which Mr. Charles B. Allen replied in an optimistic vein. Times have changed, but he is as much an optimist so far as regards the practice of pharmacy as when he was a young man of twenty-two. He said he has faith in the future of pharmacy. It behoves every pharmacist to keep himself to the requirements of the times. The practice of medicine is being carried on in such a way that unless a man is following the times he may very likely be left behind in the struggle. Mr. Allen then referred to the Society's examinations, and said that if the Society had power to institute a curriculum, it would be more for the good of the candidate than anybody else.

Mr. Rowsell, who also replied, spoke of the rapid progress that had been made in the past twelve months towards pharmaceutical legislation.

Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, proposing "The Association," said he thought it would not be a bad idea if the local Associations throughout the country were to exchange their annual reports. He followed Mr. Allen's optimistic vein, and said there is

NO REASON AT ALL FOR PESSIMISM.

He agreed that although the conditions might be changing, the condition of pharmacy, in his opinion, would be considerably improved by the step in legislation which they hoped to see taken before two or three weeks were over their heads. No one knows what the new conditions will mean to them, but he thought the world of pharmacy will see a great change. They have been accustomed to refer to certain corporations as the arch-enemy of pharmacy for some years. His experience in connection with organisation in the drug-trade had taught him that they ought not to speak of an arch-enemy, but rather of arch-enemies, and there are many of them, and they are to be found as often in the shops of individual retail pharmacists as elsewhere. (Hear, hear.) The future of pharmacy, if the Bill passed, will rest entirely in the hands of the properly qualified pharmacist, wherever he is. If the Bill is going to do anything, it will place the qualified man in a position he has never been placed in before. The new conditions will enable associations to be of still greater use. He thought the title "pharmacist" would be of more value to them than the title of "chemist

and druggist." (Hear, hear.) Local associations would be making it a great success if they co-operated, by advertisement or in some other way, to educate the public to the real significance of the title.

Mr. Davey also spoke. He referred to the position of pharmacists in the Territorial Army. Pharmacists are entitled to the same position in the British Army as are the pharmacists on the Continent. They ought not to be content with the rank of the highest non-commissioned officer; pharmacists should rank with the commissioned officers as they did on the Continent.

The toast of "The Officers of the Association" was proposed by Mr. Jas. Cocks, and acknowledged by Messrs. F. J. Barge (Hon. Treasurer) and H. H. Cannon (Hon. Secretary); and "The Visitors" by Mr. F. A. Goodwin, and spoken to by Mr. H. Wippell Gadd, F.C.S.

During the evening there were selections by the Ladies' Orchestral Band, violin solos by Miss Nation, gramophone selections by Mr. J. D. Turney, songs by Messrs. F. W. Broom, Barber, S. Hills, Richardson, and others. Mr. F. W. Harris played pianoforte selections and accompaniments.

Whist.

THE Middlesbrough branch of the Teesside Chemists' Association held their annual whist-drive at Crosby's Café on Wednesday evening, November 25, when over thirty members and friends spent a most enjoyable evening. The first prizes were won by Mrs. Harrington and Mr. Towers, and the booby prizes by Mrs. Sowerby and Mr. Eell. Mrs. Harrington took the first prize last year. Mr. Brackenbury was M.C., and Mr. Thompson (President) presented the prizes.

The members of the Sheffield Pharmacy Athletic Club held their annual whist-drive on November 25 at the Imperial Rooms. The guests numbered well over 150. The prize-winners were: Ladies—1, Miss Warren; 2, Mrs. Warnsley; 3, Miss Ash. Gentlemen—1, Mr. Gilbert Jackson; 2, Mr. Capps; 3, Mr. Massey. The cricket section prizes were also presented during the evening, Mr. Knowles taking that for the batting average, and Mr. Massey that for the bowling average. The evening proved entirely successful.

A WHIST-DRIVE and dance in connection with the Preston and District Chemists' Association took place in the "Geisha" ball-room on Thursday evening, November 26. Whist commenced at seven o'clock, after which prizes were handed by the President to the following winners: Gentlemen's prize, Mr. T. Emmett; ladies' prize, Miss Morgan; gentlemen's consolation prize, Mr. Parker; ladies' consolation prize, Miss Williamson. After refreshments, dancing commenced about 10 p.m., with Mr. Topping admirably acting as M.C., and Mr. Greenwood as pianist.

THE annual whist-drive of the Wolverhampton Chemists' Association was held on November 26. Among those present were the President and Mrs. Warner, Rev. and Mrs. Wilkes, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson, the Secretary and Mrs. Coleman, Councillor and Mrs. Beardmore, Mr. and Mrs. Callwich, Mr. and Mrs. Stanway, Mr. and Mrs. Dunn, and Mrs. Kitchen (Oakengates), etc. The first prize was won by Mrs. L. Johnson (a poker table-centre) and the second by Miss Robinson (a marmalade jar); and Mr. Shelley (Messrs. Townsend's) was first scorer and a winner of a pair of gloves, and the second prize (a walking-stick) fell to Mr. Trotter.

THE members of the Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association held a successful whist-drive at the Tudor Café, 35 Mount Pleasant, on November 26. Among thirty-four guests present were the President (Mr. B. Chatterton) and Mrs. Chatterton, Mr. Bishop and Miss Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Booth, Mr. Webb and Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Green and Miss Castle, and Mr. and Miss Dunkley. Eight tables were utilised, Mr. Chatterton and Mr. Webb acting as M.C.s. A dainty repast was provided in the interval. Mrs. Chatterton awarded the prizes to the lucky recipients, Mrs. Phillips securing the ladies' prize, and Mr. Hagger that for the gentlemen's highest score, while Mrs. Johns carried off the booby prize.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., December 3.

THE closing weeks of the year are having the usual restraining effect on the drug and chemical markets, but there is a steady undertone generally, prices in most instances being well maintained. The sensational and welcome advance in the bromide salts has overshadowed all other fluctuations this week. Chrysarobin, aloin, permanganate of potash (large crystals), platinum salts, acetic acid, and acetates have all more or less advanced. Santonin continues very scarce. Copper sulphate (Liverpool) and ammonia sulphate are easier. Glycerin is very strong, and a further advance is regarded as imminent. Shellac is lower. The more important changes of the week, including those recorded at the last drug auctions of the year, are as follows:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Bromides	Acetic acid and acetates	Aloes (Cape)	Aniseed oil,
Cocoa-butter	Aloin	Ammonia sulphate	star (c.i.f.)
Platinum-salts	Chrysarobin	Cardamoms	Shellac
Pot. permang. (large xtl.)	Senna (Tinn.)	Copper sulphate (Lpool)	
Quillaia		Lemon oil	
		Sulphonal	
		Veratrine	

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, December 2 :—Sales of opium amounting to 25 cases have been made on American account at the equivalent of from 12s. to 12s. 3d., indicating a very firm market. Severe frosts have occurred.

NEW YORK, December 3 :—Business is fair in drugs. Opium at \$4.10 per lb. for druggists' is unchanged. Cas-cara sagrada is dull at 8½c. per lb., and peppermint oil in tins is steady at \$1.40. Central and South American copaiba is easy at 40c. Senega is nominal at 42c., and jalap is firm at 35c. Podophyllum-root is firm at 7c., and hydrastis is also firm at \$1.80. Potassium bromide is unsettled at 13c. per lb.

ACID, ACETIC.—The price has advanced by 1l. per ton in sympathy with an advance in acetate of lime. It is stated that one maker has entirely withdrawn from the market, and that higher prices are anticipated. Agents quote glacial at from 30s. to 31s., according to quantity, and 30 per cent. at 21s. in casks, and 24s. in carboys.

ACID, CITRIC, remains extremely dull, buyers showing little confidence in the article in view of the uncertain position of raw material. English makers still quote 1s. 3¾d., and in second hands 1s. 3d. will readily buy, that being also the price of foreign.

AGAR-AGAR is firm, with sales in quantity at 1s. 7d. per lb. c.i.f. terms for No. 1 quality.

ALOIN is about 2d. per lb. dearer, the quotation for English make being 3s. 6d. net, and less for quantity.

AMERICAN DRUGS.—The following are a few current quotations for barks, herbs, roots, etc., on c.i.f. terms to arrive : Barks.—Bayberry, 30s. per cwt., black haw of root 6d. to 7d. per lb., euonymus 1s. 1d., sassafras 5½d. to 6½d., wahoo 1s. 1d., wild cherry 3½d. to 5d., and witch hazel 2d. to 2½d. per lb. Herbs.—Grindelia robusta 5½d., and lobelia 3¾d. to 4d., damiana leaves 5½d. Roots.—Elecampane 4½d.,

gelsemium 3d., hydrastis 7s. 9d. to 8s., culvers 7½d., blood root 5d., Honduras sarsaparilla 1s. 9d., and Mexican 4½d. to 4¾d.

ANISEED.—Fair Russian on the spot is offering at 18s., and good Spanish at 35s. per cwt.

BALSAM CANADA in tins in cases is quoted 2s. 11d. per lb. c.i.f. to arrive.

BROMIDES.—On Tuesday, December 1, the German and English makers announced a startling advance of 5d. per lb. in the bromide salts, and now quote as follows : Potassium bromide crystals 10¾d. per lb., and powder 11¼d.; ammonium bromide 1s. 1½d., and sodium bromide 1s. 0½d. per lb., all net, the discount of 5 per cent. having been abolished. The above prices are without engagement, and the makers are only willing to sell a few cwt. for prompt delivery, they not being sellers of ton quantities. The German price is understood to be 10¾d. net, with ton lots at 10½d. net, but here again no forward contracts are being entered into. American make is not offered from first hands, and there appears to be no offers for shipment from second hands. On the spot several second-hand holders do not care to name a price, and in view of further developments they prefer to look on, now that their holdings have substantially appreciated; business has been done from second-hands at 10d. per lb. for potassium.

CANARY-SEED is unchanged in value, with only a small business doing. Turkish is quoted 31s. to 32s. and good Morocco 34s. per quarter.

CARAWAY-SEED is steady at 38s. to 39s. per cwt. for ordinary to good Dutch on the spot.

CASTORUM.—On Wednesday, December 9, the Hudson's Bay Co. will offer 1,459 lb., as compared with 1,255 lb. last year.

CHILLIES.—At auction 35 bags of Nyasaland were bought in at 40s.

CINCHONA.—At the auction to be held at Amsterdam on December 10 the 10,138 packages of Java bark to be offered weigh 956,106 kilos., the 12 bales and 23 cases Sumatra weighing 55,996 kilos. The average percentage of quinine in the manufacturing-bark is 6.29, as compared with 6.53 per cent. at the November auctions. The manufacturing-bark weighs 799,739 kilos. and contains the equivalent of 50,355 kilos. of quinine, and the pharmaceutical bark weighs 156,367 kilos. and contains the equivalent of 5,609 kilos. of q.s. The shipments from Java during November amounted to 1,138,000 Amst. lb. against 1,716,000 Amst. lb. in 1907, 1,489,000 Amst. lb. in 1906, and 1,273,000 Amst. lb. in 1905. During the eleven months the shipments have been 14,107,000 Amst. lb. against 16,022,000 Amst. lb. in 1907, 12,952,000 Amst. lb. in 1906, and 14,541 Amst. lb. in 1905.

CLOVES.—At auction eight bales of Zanzibar were bought in at 5½d. Privately, business has been quiet, with small sales of Zanzibar at 4½d. for December-January shipment, and at 4¾d. c.i.f. d/w; for January-March for delivery, business has been done at 5½d. to 5¾d.

COCAINE is quiet and unaltered, with stocks in second-hands much reduced. In view of the fact that many contracts will mature at the end of this year, it is thought the position will be clearer. The makers continue to quote from 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d. per oz. for the hydrochloride, and in second-hands limited quantities can be had at 7s. 9d.

COPPER SULPHATE.—The Liverpool quotations are again slightly easier at from 20l. to 20l. 5s. 9d. per ton for prompt, and at 21l. to 21l. 5s. for January-April delivery.

CORIANDER-SEED is slow of sale at 11s. 6d. to 12s. per cwt. for fair to good Morocco, and at 14s. for Russian.

CREAM OF TARTAR is quiet on the basis of 75s. for 93 per cent. and 73s. per cwt. for 95 per cent.

CUMIN-SEED is firm at 41s. to 45s. per cwt. for common to good Morocco and Malta.

ERGOT.—New Russian is quoted 1s. 1d. per lb. c.i.f.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—The demand is small at 10s. per cwt. for retail lots of Morocco on the spot.

GAMBIER.—Small sales of cubes have been made on the spot at 33s. 9d. per cwt.

GLYCERIN.—The situation in the glycerin market appears to have become acute, inasmuch as all refiners' prices are withdrawn, and it is quite impossible at present to buy at the previous quotation of 64l. 10s. per ton in drums, or

68*l.* 10*s.* in tins, in cases of 5-ton lots, so that a further advance is regarded as imminent. In second-hands a limited quantity could be had in 10-cwt. drums at from 65*s.* to 66*s.* per cwt.

IRON SULPHATE remains very firm at from 52*s.* 6*d.* to 55*s.* per ton spot. Supplies on offer are by no means large, and in spite of the fact that trade has been slow, there is likely to be no easing off in prices next year. In fact, some large inquiries are on the market for delivery over 1909.

LEAD ACETATE has a firmer tendency in sympathy with other acetates and, in view of the low price of lead, the present is looked upon as a favourable time to cover requirements ahead. From 24*s.* to 24*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. is quoted for casks and 25*s.* for kegs ex wharf.

LINSEED is firm at 48*s.* to 52*s.* per quarter for good to fine qualities.

MACE was steady in auction, thirteen packages of West Indian realising from 1*s.* 4*d.* to 1*s.* 5*d.* for ordinary to fair, and 10*d.* to 11*d.* for broken.

MENTHOL.—Steady. Small sales of Suzuki have been made at 7*s.* spot, single cases changing hands at 7*s.* 1*d.* Kobayashi is also quoted at the same figure.

OIL, BERGAMOT, is quiet, as the new crop will shortly be on the market in quantity. Already a few lots have been offered, but quality is not prime.

OIL, CASTOR.—Hull make of first pressings is quoted for prompt delivery at 23*l.* per ton in barrels ex wharf, London; and for January-June, 1909, delivery a premium of 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton is asked.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Although prices here are quotably unaltered there is a disposition to make the market firmer. Agents still offer at 57*s.* per barrel c.i.f., and on the spot 58*s.* will buy. Our Bergen correspondent writes on November 30 that the market continues very dull at 57*s.* per barrel c.i.f. for finest, non-congealing Lofoten oil. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 20,880 barrels, against 12,225 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

OIL, LEMON.—Quotations from Messina are the turn easier again, good brands offering at 2*s.* 9*d.* per lb. c.i.f. terms; on the spot supplies are by no means large, there being sellers of small lots at 3*s.* 4*d.* It is stated that the new law regarding citrus products has affected the position somewhat, inasmuch as exporters who formerly advanced money to citrate of lime makers (so as to enable them to contract for lemons) have this season refrained from doing so, because citrate is not now a freely negotiable product. Consequently makers of citrate and lemon oil, most of whom are in need of ready cash to carry on their business, have been compelled to raise money by pushing the sale of lemon oil for December-March delivery, thereby forcing prices downwards. Considerable stocks of old crop remain on hand in Sicily, those having had to follow the course of new oil.

OIL, PEPPERMINT, remains firm, agents offering good brands of Wayne County at 6*s.* per lb., landed terms to come forward. American H.G.H. is quoted 8*s.* 6*d.* c.i.f., and spot is 9*s.* 3*d.*

OPIMUM.—Writing on November 21 a Smyrna correspondent states that 82 cases have changed hands this week, including 12 cases new Adette, at the equivalent of 9*s.* 10*d.*, 27 cases prime Karahissar t.g. at from 10*s.* 2*d.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*, 28 cases "extra" ditto at 10*s.* 3*d.* to 10*s.* 11*d.*, all for export; nine cases "extra" ditto at 10*s.* 11*d.* to 11*s.* 1*d.* (for speculators), and six cases Dutch inspected at 11*s.* 5*d.* per lb. c.i.f. European ports. The week has therefore been busy, and all exporters (with the exception of large American buyers) found business easy at the beginning and even obtained some concessions, but, as usual, native speculators checked business by forcing up prices. Holders profiting by this disposition have retired from the market, awaiting the opportunity to force buyers' hands. Writing on November 21 another Smyrna correspondent reports an active market, the sales amounting to 65 cases, on behalf of the U.S.A., England, the Continent, and Dutch Government; the prices paid included: Druggists', usual run, 10*s.* 3*d.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*; "extra druggists'," 10*s.* 9*d.* to 11*s.*; and Dutch grades ("slightly druggists'") 11*s.* 9*d.*, but higher prices are now asked, owing to severe cold and frost having set

in. The old stock is still in the hands of the syndicate, which is holding out for 13*s.* to 14*s.* 6*d.* per lb. as to quality. It is thought higher prices will again rule, as Constantinople is higher, the stock of good rich material there having considerably diminished. It appears safe to lay in stock of 10-per-cent. to 11-per-cent. druggists' if available at from 10*s.* 9*d.* to 12*s.* A Smyrna correspondent writes on November 21 that the sales for the week amount to 65 cases for export at from 10*s.* for ordinary to 10*s.* 4*d.* to 11*s.* 4*d.* for selected qualities. No important sales of ordinary having been made since the beginning of the harvest, one of the holders who wished to realise his stock sold at 10*s.*; this fall affected the market and facilitated the sale of 65 cases; a sudden change in the temperature, however, brought about a rise in the market, which closes firm with buyers at 11*s.* 5*d.* for extra selected and few sellers. The arrivals amount to 1,910 cases, as compared with 1,270 cases last year at the same date.

PEPPER.—At auction forty bags of Singapore sold at 3*d.*, for barely fair; privately sellers of fair quote 3½*d.* spot. The market for arrival is firmer, with moderate sales of Singapore for January-March shipments at 2½*d.* c.i.f. d/w. Of white pepper at auction, eighty-eight bags of Singapore offered and bought in at 4½*d.* to 5½*d.*; the value of fair privately is 4½*d.* The market for Singapore to arrive is dearer, fair quantities having been sold at 4¾*d.*, for November-December shipment and 4½½*d.* for January-March shipment c.i.f. d/w.

PIMENTO.—Quiet. At auction 100 bags were bought in at from 2*d.* to 2½*d.* for greyish to fair, and 70 bags of siftings sold partly without reserve at from 1½*d.* to 1½*d.* per lb. Privately there are sellers of December-January shipment at 19*s.* c.i.f.

POTASH PERMANGANATE.—The makers have advanced the price of extra large crystals by 4*s.* per cwt., now quoting 9*s.* per cwt. more than the small crystals, the price of latter being 3*s.* 6*d.*, and ½-ton lots 35*s.* 6*d.*

QUILLAIA.—Higher. Holders on the spot now ask 41*s.* and 45*s.* 6*d.* for crushed in small quantities; for shipment 32*s.* c.i.f. London is quoted and 32*s.* 6*d.* c.i.f. Liverpool.

QUININE is steady, but sales remain quite unimportant, secondhands continuing to quote the usual German brands of sulphate at from 7½*d.* to 7¾*d.* per oz. The interest now centres in the Amsterdam sales next week, when practically fifty-six tons of "quinine in the bark" will be brought to the hammer. The imports into London during November amounted to 89,008 oz. and the deliveries to 103,984 oz., leaving the stock on November 30 at 3,324,496 oz., against 3,542,816 oz. in 1907.

At the auction held by the Amsterdam Quinine Works on December 1, 1,417½ kilos. Ed. II. were sold at an average price of 11.03*fl.* per kilo., against 11.04*fl.* at the previous auction.

SANTONIN.—The scarcity in regard to raw material continues, and there is practically no santonin to be had for prompt delivery. No change in price is anticipated, however.

SERPENTARY is quoted 1*s.* 10½*d.* per lb. c.i.f. to arrive.

SHELLAC.—The market has been somewhat disorganised by liquidation in the delivery market, and prices are lower. On the spot, values have declined about 2*s.*, fair free TN orange selling on a basis of 91*s.* to 90*s.* per cwt.

SOY.—The principal steamship companies who carry soy, propose, from January 1, to alter the method of calculating the freight by substituting the present reported cubic measurement rate for actual measurement under strict supervision. The expense of freight will, therefore, be much greater in future. The spot price ranges from 1*s.* 2½*d.* to 1*s.* 3½*d.* per gal. according to brand, and forward delivery a premium of 2*d.* per gal. represents the nearest parity to the present cost of handling the product.

SPEARMACEIL.—English refined is quoted from 1*s.* 2½*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb. ex warehouse.

TURMERIC.—Bengal is steady at 19*s.* spot, and Cochinchina bulbs are still held for 13*s.* per cwt.

London Drug-auctions.

(The next drug sales take place January 14, 1909.)

The black fog which enveloped the City on Wednesday rendered the judging of drug samples for public auction ex-

ceedingly difficult (especially senna and cardamoms), and in consequence the sales were postponed until 1 p.m. on Thursday in order to give buyers the opportunity to inspect the goods on Thursday morning. Although there will be no public sales of drugs for six weeks the general demand was slow, with the exception of a few staples that always sell. Cape aloes was a shade easier, boxed Curaçao of mostly dull liver being neglected. Buchu was about steady considering the indifferent quality. Sumatra benzoin is firm and scarce, as is calumba and cubebs. Cardamoms only partially sold at slightly easier rates. Dragon's blood and gamboge neglected. Jamaica honey was firm and scarce. Ipecacuanha was a shade firmer than private rates for Matto Grosso. Myrrh quiet. Rhubarb is easy, and grey Jamaica sarsaparilla met with an excellent demand at firm and unaltered rates. Tinnevely senna was full up to occasionally firmer, the few bales of good green offered realising high prices. Beeswax was quiet, Madagascar being firm. The table below shows the amount of public business done:

	Off-red	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aconite (Ind)	22	0	Honey—		
Albumen (Hen.) ...	9	1	Jamaica.....	35	30
Aloes—			Ipecacuanha—		
Cape	62	53	Cartagena.....	5	3
Curaçao (bxs.) ...	27	0	Matto Grosso ...	11	3
Socotrine (kgs) ...	10	0	Jabo andi	2	0
Ambergris	2	0	Kamala	3	0
Ang-lisa-seed	3	0	Kino	5	2
Aniseed	116	0	Lime-juice	10	5
Apricot-kernels ..	46	0	Mi k-sugar	1	0
Anatto.....	14	0	Myrrh	22	2
Araroba	3	0	Nux vomica	401	0
Areca	40	0	Oil—		
Argol	29	0	almond	12	0
Bael-fruit.....	1	0	camphor	8	0
Balsam—			cassia	5	0
Cop-iba.....	2	0	cinnamon	8	0
Peru	2	0	cod-liver (Norw.)	10	0
Benzoin (Siam) ...	3	1	eucalypt	57	0
(Sumatra)	107	22	geranium	3	0
Berberis aquifol ..	1	0	lemongrass	6	0
Bittersweet-bark...	1	0	lime	7	7
Buchu	46	18	peppermint	5	0
Butt-r-beans	41	41	vetivert	1	0
Calumba	32	0	Olibanum	34	7
Canella alba.....	11	0	Orange-peel	12	0
Cannabis indica—			Ox-tongues (doz.)	20	0
Bombay.....	4	0	Papain (tin)	1	0
Cantharides (China)	5	0	Plumbago	21	0
Caraway-seed	14	0	Rhubarb (China)...	83	5
Cardamoms	210	98	Sandarac	9	0
Cascara sagrada ...	463	25	Sarsaparilla—		
Cascarilla	11	0	Grey Jam.	45	45
Cassia fistula	3	0	Lima	7	7
Cinchona	2	0	Native	6	6
Civet	5	0	Scammonium	1	0
Col-hicum-root	2	0	Seed-lac	115	0
Condur ngo	1	0	Senna—		
Cubebs	80	5	Alex.	150	*10
Cutt-fish-bone	16	0	Tinnevely	390	390
Dogwood-bark.....	1	0	Squill	5	0
Dragon's blood	30	0	Stavesacre	5	0
(Zan drop)	1	0	Sticklac	10	0
Egg white of).....	8	2	Tamarinds (E.I.)	30	0
Elemi	19	7	Tragacanth	9	3
Ergot	13	0	Turmeric	243	0
Eringo-root	1	0	Wax (bees)—		
Fennel-seed	65	0	Australian	20	0
Galangal	20	0	East Indian	18	0
Galls	10	10	Jamaica	3	4
Gamboge	4	0	Madagascar	109	57
Gentian	30	0	Morocco	12	0
Guaiacum	1	0	Nyasaland	1	1
Gum arabic	11	1	Zanzibar	3	0
Honey—			Wax (v.g.)	68	0
Honolulu (cs.) ...	11	11	Winter's bark	1	0

* Sold privately.

ALBUMEN.—A parcel of nine cases Chinese hen was bought in at from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. Two cases white of eggs sold at 3d., and five cases liquid egg-yolk were retired at 5d.

ALOES.—Cape aloes sold at slightly easier rates, Mossel Bay selling on the usual 20-per-cent. tares at from 28s. to 29s. for good to fine bright hard firsts, 27s. to 27s. 6d. for good seconds slightly drossy, 26s. 6d. for fair seconds slightly dull and drossy, and 23s. 6d. to 24s. 6d. for common dull and coarse; 18 cases Algoa Bay (estimated tares) realised 25s. 6d. all round for good bright hard to fair, a little coarse, being easier. Of Curaçao, 27 boxes, mostly dull liver, were offered and bought in. A further lot of

4 cases Algoa Bay (estimated tares) offered in another interest sold at 25s. for fair slightly drossy seconds.

ACONITE.—Twenty-two bales Indian were offered on Umney's analysis, which stated:

This root when dried and powdered yielded 0.83 per cent. of alkaloid by the U.S.P. method of assay. It should be pointed out that the alkaloid in this species is principally pseudaconitine, which is not identical with the aconitine official in the B.P. and U.S.P. prepared from *Aconitum Napellus*. A greater proportion of alkaloid is usually found in the Indian root than in *Aconitum Napellus*.

No bid was made for the parcel, which was bought in at 50s.

ANNATTO-SEED.—A bid of 4½d. per lb. is to be submitted for six bags of Ceylon.

ARECA.—Several parcels of Ceylon were held at 15s., at which sales have been made privately.

BENZOIN.—Firm and very dear. Seventeen cases of good Sumatra seconds, well packed, with small to bold almonds and slight storax flavour, sold at 8l. 5s. per cwt., and for five cases of ordinary false-packed seconds 6l. 10s. was paid. A case of medium to bold sifted loose pale Siam almonds of fair flavour sold at 26l.

BUCHU.—Steady, and in fair demand. Four bales of fair small round, slightly yellowish mixed, sold at from 10½d. to 10½d. per lb., and for two bales good green slightly stalky 10½d. was paid; barely fair sold at 8d., yellow and faded at 7d. (three bales), yellowish "longs" at 3d., and yellowish "ovals" at 3d. per lb.

BUTTER-BEANS.—Under this designation 41 bags from Madagascar realised 7s. per cwt.

CALUMBA.—Scarce. Twenty bags good small to bold yellow, washed, picked, were bought in at 3½s. 6d., the limit being 35s., and for ordinary sorts 15s. was wanted, a bid of 13s. being refused.

CARDAMOMS.—The demand for the principal parcels was slow, and the tone generally easier, the following prices being paid: Ceylon-Mysore good bold long palish, few open, 2s. 5d.; bold medium palish to pale, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 1d.; small and medium, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10d.; small pale, 1s. 6d. Splits bold and medium palish to pale, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. Seed 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. Two cases Native wild pods sold at from 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d. Mangalore bold round pale (1 case) sold at 3s. 2d.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—A rather large quantity offered, of which 25 bags sold at 37s. 6d. per cwt. (gross for net; no discount) for two-year old.

CASSIA FISTULA.—Three bags of good bold, mostly fresh, West Indian pod realised 22s. per cwt.

CUBEBS.—Sixty bags fine sifted genuine berries were held at 100s. per cwt., and for five bags fire- and water-damaged 67s. 6d. was paid.

ELEMI.—Seven cases of yellowish Manila sold without reserve at 33s.; fair was bought in at 50s. per cwt.

GAMBOGE.—Two cases of fair blocky Siam pipe, slightly mixed with Saigon, were held at 16l. 10s. per cwt.

HONEY.—Scarce and firm. Ten cases set Honolulu realised 26s. 6d. per cwt. Palish set Jamaica sold at 31s., fair brown set at 26s. to 28s. in barrels, and ordinary dark brown to fair at from 21s. to 23s. 6d.; dark liquid amber, 24s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—Rather firmer than recent business. Privately a bale of ordinary lean Matto Grosso sold at 5s., and two bales of common at 4s. 10d. to 4s. 11d. per lb.; the best lots were held for 5s. 1d. Five bags Cartagena offered, and three sold at 4s. 3d. for the pick, the remaining two being common dull, for which 4s. 3d. was also wanted.

LIME-JUICE.—Five packages of West Indian sold at 1s. per gal.

MYRRH.—Two cases of rather darkish red sorts of Zanzibar character sold at 60s. per cwt.

OIL, ANISEED, STAR.—Quite a large business has been done for shipment—about 200 cases—at 4s. per lb. c.i.f., after which 4s. 1d. was asked; but, in view of the drop in silver, 4s. would probably be cabled out. Spot is quiet at 4s. 6d.

OIL, CASSIA.—For 82 per cent. c.a. a private bid of 4s. 7d. was refused, the buying-in price being 4s. 9d.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Sales privately have been made at 1s. 4½d. for globulus; in auction 17 cases had not arrived.

OIL, LIME.—A case of Dominican hand-pressed sold at 5s., and a case of usual distilled at 1s. 9d. Five cases also sold without reserve at from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.

ORANGE-PEEL.—Seven cases of Tripoli strip sold at from 4½d. to 5¾d., without reserve.

RHUBARB.—Quiet. Three cases of medium and bold flat Shensi with three-quarters fair colour, rather dull coat, sold at 1s. 10d., and two cases round Canton trimming root with three-quarters good colour sold without reserve at 1s. 2d. per lb. Bids of 1s. 1d. are to be submitted for medium round Canton, with three-quarters very fair pinky fracture, and the same price for small to medium flat ditto. The arrivals comprise 53 cases from Shanghai, also 160 packages in transit.

SARSAPARILLA.—Firm and unaltered. Forty-five bales genuine grey Jamaica sold at from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. for fair to good grey, and 1s. 3d. for coarse. Five bales of Lima-Jamaica realised 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d., and six bales of native Jamaica sold at from 11d. to 1s. 1d. per lb.

SENNA.—Tinnevely met with the usual good competition, the catalogues being cleared at full to occasionally firmer prices, considering the quality. Small and medium greenish sold at 3½d. to 3¾d., small ditto at 3d., ordinary small specky to medium 2d. to 2¾d., and common dark 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb. Pods sold at from 2¾d. to 3d. per lb., being firmer. Fair to good Alexandrian pods were held at from 7½d. to 8½d., good green siftings at 2d., and broken leaf at 3d. per lb.

WAX, BEES'.—Quiet. Only a small quantity of Jamaica was put up, of which 2 barrels realised 7l. 12s. 6d. for good pale, and for a single barrel of ordinary grey and brown 7l. 5s. was paid, a case of mostly brown from another interest going at 7l. 10s. Forty mats of good even brown Madagascar block changed hands at 6l. 12s. 6d., and fair ditto at 6l. 10s.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is little of alteration or of special moment to report as regards the heavy-chemical market, and matters generally are quiet. This, however, is not unusual at this time of the year, and the probabilities are that business will gradually decline now up to the end of the year. The general feeling as regards forward requirements is of a more hopeful character and values continue on the steady side.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—This market is dull, and with supplies available for early delivery increasing values are on the decline. As a natural result purchases are being held back as much as possible. Present nearest figures are Beckton forward 11l. 12s. 6d., Beckton terms 10l. 18s. 9d. to 11l., London 10l. 18s. 9d. to 11l., Leith 11l. 2s. 6d., Hull 10l. 17s. 6d. to 11l. Makers' ideas for forward are on the basis of 7s. 6d. to 10s. per ton higher, and since buyers' ideas run more in the neighbourhood of only 5s. advance not much is being done. In benzols there is not a great deal being done, but prices keep on the steady side, and especially so as regards 50 per cent., which is quoted 7¾d. to 8d. per gal., while 90 per cent. varies from 6¼d. to 7d. per gal., according to market.

MAGNESIUM SALTS are in somewhat better request and are steady. Sulphate 62s. 6d. to 65s. per ton, chloride 67s. 6d. to 70s. per ton, and carbonate 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt.

ZINC SALTS continue to move steadily at unaltered figures. Zinc sulphate crystals 6l. 15s. to 7l. per ton, and zinc-chloride solution 100° Tw. 6l. 2s. 6d. to 6l. 7s. 6d. per ton.

SULPHOCYANIDES show no material improvement, and values continue on the low side. Potassium 6¾d. to 7d. per lb., ammonium (95-per-cent.) 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb., and barium (95-per-cent.) 3¾d. to 3½d. per lb.

Manchester Chemical-market.

Manchester, December 1.

The reports of improvements in heavy chemicals are generally confirmed from most quarters, but for certain products prices for next year show a reduction. Bleaching-powder is quoted at 4l. 2s. 6d. per ton on rails, softwood casks, for prompt, with 5s. per ton less for 1909 contracts. Demand for export has been well maintained. Caustic soda on home demand is better. In copper sulphate holders are again asking more money—viz., 20l. 15s. to 21l. 5s. per ton best brands, delivered Manchester. Arsenic shows a slight improvement. Prussiates of potash and soda are weaker. Lead

salts also weaker; foreign white is 23l. 5s. and brown 19l. There is no change in acetate of lime and soda, but demand is slow. Green copperas is still scarce, and holders ask full rates. In coal-tar products there is little change generally, but sulphate of ammonia is about 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per ton lower for most ports. The quotation on rails Manchester is 10l. 15s. to 10l. 16s. 3d.

American Drug-market.

New York, November 24.

There has been little change in the character or extent of business transacted in the New York drug-market during the interval, and the general opinion is that conditions will not greatly improve before the turn of the year. Price developments have been few. Jalap is higher, and the usual decline in opium may be noted.

ALOES.—Case Curaçao has been in good demand, both for local and foreign consumption, and prices have hardened, 7c. to 7½c. now being asked for average grades. Cape and Socotrine are steady at former values.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) is still quoted at 50c. to 51c. for bulk and cubes respectively, but lower prices are expected in view of the easier position abroad.

CASCARA.—Nothing of any consequence has occurred to alter the position of this drug, and the former prices of 8½c. to 9½c. are in force on spot. Coast supplies are said to be under good control, and the local stocks are not particularly heavy, so that slightly higher prices may be expected to follow any increased activity.

COPAIBA.—Supplies on hand are quite equal to the prevailing demand for C. & S. American, which is supplied at 40c. to 45c. as formerly. Much of the business done has been for foreign account, and in some cases the prices accepted have been lower than the cost of importing and handling straight goods here. Para is steady at 50c. to 55c.

CUBEB OIL.—The continued scarcity of berries suitable for production of U.S.P. oil has resulted in the higher prices of \$1.75 to \$1.85.

JALAP.—The meagre spot supplies are in the hands of a few dealers, and in sympathy with the markets abroad prices of average grades rapidly advanced to 35c.

HYDRASTIS is following a routine course, with prices rather firm at \$1.80 to \$1.90.

MANDRAKE continues firm at 7c. to 9c. as to quantity and seller. The movement is slow meantime, but supplies are scarce, and the trend of the market is upwards.

OPIMUM.—The business in progress is almost entirely of a jobbing nature, with much competition among the various holders, and \$4.10 is now possible.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—Both tin and case goods are in good demand, and while former quotations are unaltered on spot, the firmness of the primary markets tends to enhance values here.

SENEGA (WESTERN).—The position at primary sources is reported easier but no change has occurred on spot, and up to 45c. is asked by some dealers, although 42c. is available in other quarters.

SPERMINT OIL has been in better demand, and values are fairly steady at \$2.60.

WINTERGREEN OIL is more freely offered from the country, and business on a large scale has been done at the lower figure of \$1.60 for true birch.

Scammony-root.

The United States Consul-General at Smyrna reports that the scammony trade in that town has practically been monopolised by one concern. The annual exports amount to about 5,500 lb., the principal buyers being Italy, France, and England. Most of it is sent by parcels-post through the various post offices in Smyrna. In former years it was a custom of the peasants to adulterate scammony, when in a liquid state, with wax and even mud. This practice, however, has been obviated by analysing all the scammony on the market. The Consul gives a description of the plant and the primitive methods of crushing the roots between stones to obtain the juice, which is then dried.

THE LAW OF COUNTRY ORDERS.—In the Shoreditch County Court on Thursday, before Judge Smvly, Messrs. Hewthorn & Co., 70 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., claimed 5l. 8s. from a firm at Menai Bridge, Anglesea, for drugs supplied. Mr. Griffiths applied on behalf of defendants to have the case removed to Anglesea on the ground that his Honour had no jurisdiction, the order having been taken by the traveller and there being nobody in London to receive the money. It was stated on behalf of the plaintiffs that the above address is the registered office for receiving the money. His Honour, in refusing the application, said the decision of the Court above makes it incumbent on the debtor, if he cannot find his creditor in one place, to follow him all over the place until he does. He accordingly held that he had jurisdiction in this case, as the money is payable in London.



Chemist-Dental Association.

SIR,—With reference to "U. D. P.'s" letter in last week's issue, is it not possible to form a Chemist-Dental Association and protect ourselves? Chemists are placed on the same footing as dentists *re* companies. Companies can call themselves "Dentists" by stating "Dentists" in the joint-stock articles of association. Likewise companies of unqualified men can call themselves "Chemists." What I recommend is that chemists who practise dentistry should make the most of it, as the law has not protected chemists in the past. I would willingly subscribe to a Chemist-Dental Association.

Yours truly,
DENS. (127/43.)

SIR,—Registered dentists are under a great obligation to Mr. Higgs in so courageously fighting their battle with the British Dental Association for the retention of their ancient privileges, but it is quite apparent from your report of the proceedings of the Medical Council that if an opportunity occurs through some little inadvertence, and the borderline of what they think is not justifiable is crossed, the innocent victim will be pounced upon and an awful example made of his ignorance and infamous conduct. An association should be at once formed, in the first place to get legal opinion as to what advertisements are within the law, and also for the purpose of forming a defence fund for any case that may arise when the one attacked is within his recognised rights. If Mr. Higgs will indicate his willingness to call a meeting to consider this matter, I shall not only be willing to attend such meeting, but will contribute a guinea to the fund, which can be used for preliminary expenses. Trusting Mr. Higgs will continue the fight to the end and still further earn the gratitude of the registered dentists,

Yours faithfully,
GRATITUDE. (130/48.)

Drugs to the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

SIR,—In your issue of November 28 you give under the above head a report of the meeting of the Board on November 21. The remarks reported as having been made by one or two of the members of the Board seem to charge us with supplying drugs which are "impure," "unwholesome," and "unsatisfactory." We have no such drugs in our establishment, nor have we ever supplied to our customers any that were impure or unwholesome, and if by the word "unsatisfactory" is meant "not in accordance with contract," we say that all the drugs supplied by us to the Board have been in strict accordance with our reading—or the reading of any reasonable person—of their contract; and we say further that where any question has arisen between the Board's officers and ourselves we have always endeavoured to ascertain to what they objected and what they desired, and in every instance have gone out of our way to meet their requirements.

We do not know where Colonel Graham obtained his figures, but, so far as we are aware, they are inaccurate and exaggerated. We suggest that in fairness, before publicity was given to this matter by the Board, we should have had an opportunity of appearing before the committee. The few complaints which reached us were of so trivial a nature and were so promptly dealt with by us that it is difficult to understand how the committee could have proceeded upon them or arrived at so serious a conclusion without giving us the opportunity which fairness demands in such cases.

We feel that your readers will agree that the *ex parte* manner in which we have been treated by the Board is neither just nor fair.—Yours faithfully,

Brunton's Wharf, E. CORBYN, STACEY & CO., LTD.

The Notts Association.

SIR,—In your otherwise estimable report of the dinner of the Nottingham and Notts Pharmaceutical Association in the current issue of the *C. & D.*, I notice you have mentioned me as President of the Association. This is an error which I wish to correct. Mr. FitzHugh has held this office

for over thirty years, and, much to my regret personally and to that of my colleagues, was unable to be present owing to illness, and I at the last moment took his place.

Yours truly,

Nottingham, December 1.

F. ROSS SERGEANT.

Benzine, Benzene, Benzole, and Benzoline.

SIR,—It was with much interest that I read the criticism of Mr. D. B. Dott (*C. & D.*, August 29, p. 367) on my paper in your Summer Issue. In order that I may answer Mr. Dott thoroughly I shall divide his comments into four parts.

1. *Benzine*.—Mr. Dott wants to know which nation is responsible for the application of the name "benzine" to the petroleum distillate. He states (*C. & D.*, March 14, p. 427): "I fancy the Americans are responsible for the word." As explained in my paper, it was Professor E. Mitscherlich, of Berlin, who coined the word. Liebig, in an editorial note on Mitscherlich's memoir, changed the name into "benzol," as the latter ending corresponds better to its properties and mode of preparation. Unfortunately the British adopted and still use the term for the coal-tar distillate. Later on this was changed into "benzene," and British chemists now speak of the benzene ring. The product from fractional distillation of petroleum (crude oil) was supposed to be identical, and was therefore also named "benzine" or "benzene," making the confusion worse. J. G. McIntosh, in his translation (1901) of Neuburger and Noalhat's "Technology of Petroleum," calls the petroleum distillate "benzene," and the same term is used by B. J. Crew in his "Practical Treatise on Petroleum" (1887). Schorlemmer, in England, isolated (1863) compounds, and originally published the statement, not substantiated by further analysis, that "benzene" (benzole) and toluene (toluole) were obtainable by distilling American petroleum. Therefore, if the British thus found "benzene" or "benzine" in American petroleum, they were perhaps justified in naming the petroleum distillate "benzine." For the two reasons given it is my belief that the name "benzine" is of British origin.

2. *Benzene v. Benzole*.—I am fully aware of the facts regarding Mr. Dott's remarks advocating the name "benzene" in place of "benzol," but I want to add that in English-speaking countries it would be well to give the name "benzene" to chemically pure C_6H_6 , and the term "benzole" to the commercial mixture of "benzene" and "toluene," thus allowing these two somewhat confusing products to be readily distinguished by name. German-speaking nations, who do not want to know the term "benzene," would object, as with them benzol means C_6H_6 . In regard to Mr. Dott's statement that no doubt "benzene" will replace "benzol" in the next British Pharmacopoeia, I sincerely hope that if the title "benzene" becomes official, the British Pharmacopoeia will require a chemically pure crystallisable C_6H_6 , otherwise the confusion will be greater than ever.

3. *Benzoline*.—Mr. Dott does not agree that "benzoline" is a specially objectionable term, but he quotes Allen ("Organic Analysis," ii. 2, p. 97) in his former letter—in which quotation, however, Allen also thought the name "benzoline" is not good. What does the term "benzoline" indicate? The ending "ine" certainly means like or similar to (benzol), as with Mitscherlich for "benzine," the "ine" meant benzoin-like. "Benzoline" originally was the name given to the lighter distillates from bituminous schists or their oils.

4. *Benzine Confusion*.—Mr. Dott advocates the dropping of the name "benzine" or "benzin" for the petroleum distillate. My answer is that this cannot be done very well—that is, not in the United States and in German-speaking countries, and I hope not in England: the name "benzin" for petroleum benzin is too firmly established. We certainly do not want to take the backward step of the Portuguese, who give the official title "benzoinum" to an impure "benzole," or the new French Codex, which gives: French title, *benzine*; synonyms, *benzène*, *benzol*; Latin title, *benzinum*; formula, C_6H_6 . Just think of it, in the twentieth century!

I hope that our British friends will remember that it was their own countryman, the celebrated physicist and chemist, Michael Faraday, the secretary of Sir Humphry Davy, who in 1825 gave the liquid C_6H_6 the name "benzole." Then why not use this English term "benzole," or, if you please, "benzene," for the coal-tar product, and restrict the name "benzin" to the petroleum distillate? In conclusion, I hope that the object of this and my former paper—that is, to bring about uniformity in the use of these various confusing terms—will be accomplished.

Remember, "benzin" means petroleum benzin!

Brooklyn, N.Y., Nov. 18.

OTTO RAUBENHEIMER.

"Minor Apprentices."

SIR,—It is interesting to note "Carlisle's" remarks about passing the Minor during apprenticeship and the present value of assistants in India compared with fifteen to twenty years ago. Times pharmaceutically have changed, and the salary paid to-day is not too much for either qualified or unqualified assistants, although they are a good deal higher than they were twenty-five years ago. When I passed my Minor as an apprentice in July 1882, the first examination after twenty-one and after three and a half years' experience as an apprentice, I completed my four-years' term in December at the apprentice's salary of 10*l.* a year. I was then offered a situation as qualified assistant at 50*l.* a year, and accepted it for some time, with Messrs. Baildon & Son, where I was apprenticed. To-day I have great difficulty in getting apprentices through their Preliminary during their apprenticeship, and this although time is given for classes during apprenticeship. We had excellent opportunities for classes, and the use of the Pharmaceutical Rooms in Edinburgh, and I can look back with pleasure at the healthy rivalry that existed in those days between the apprentices in different shops.

Yours truly,

Glasgow, December 1.

J. W. SUTHERLAND.

SIR,—In the year 1868 I commenced an apprenticeship with a good firm of chemists in a small Hampshire town; six months later I passed the easy Preliminary examination of that day. I then commenced to study slowly for the Minor. Books were few and opportunities for classes were *nil*, though time for study was given by my firm. The result, however, was that in 1872, after a week's reading with the only "coach" of that day, the late Mr. Braithwaite, I passed the Minor the first time, and six months later the Apothecaries' Hall examination for assistants. I may also add that, like your correspondent's principal, my firm generously gave me six months of my time out of my five-years' apprenticeship.

Yours faithfully,

Bath, November 27.

ALFRED W. GRIFFIN.

SIR,—Although I cannot put forward the claim of having passed the Minor during my apprenticeship (I only served three years), yet I think I can claim a record as regards the age at qualifying. I was exactly twenty-one years of age on the day that I qualified. When entering my fee for the examination the officials at Bloomsbury Square notified me on the receipt that I would be allowed to go up if the examination extended until the 24th, which was my twenty-first birthday. The examination started on the 22nd—a Tuesday—and, as you are aware, the candidates go up alphabetically. As luck would have it, there were sufficient candidates to carry the examination on until Thursday, the 24th. In the ordinary course I should have been up among the "N's" on the Wednesday, but as I was not of age until the Thursday I was allowed to go up that day among the "S's," "T's," etc. After being told that I had passed, the Chairman congratulated me on being the youngest chemist on the register. I know there are no chemists on the register who can have qualified younger; I often have wondered if there are any who have qualified as young?

Yours truly,

Wigtown, November 29.

A. M. NICOLSON.

[Yes; for some years after 1868 no age-limit was set for Minor candidates, so that at one time it was not unusual for candidates to pass before they were out of their teens. Chatting the other evening on this subject with Mr. C. B. Allen and Mr. J. F. Harrington, we learned that both of them passed before they reached their majority, Mr. Harrington on March 20, 1872, and Mr. Allen on November 20, 1872, the latter in the short interval between his apprenticeship and his first situation as an assistant. Mr. W. S. Turner, Ph.C., formerly of Manchester, passed on July 18, 1873, when he was eighteen. We have received other instances of "Minor apprentices," the most recent being Mr. David D. Cairnie, jun., Thurso, N.B., who qualified in October, and his apprenticeship will not be completed until April 1909.—*Editor C. & D.*]

Glossing Show-birds' Feathers.

J. G. (124/5) inquired in the *C. & D.*, November 28, p. 836, what is used by bird fanciers to produce a glossy coating on show-birds' feathers. This has produced several replies.

W. J. W. (28/11) says: "Give your birds linseed-oil capsules, 5 minims each, each night; it produces just what you ask."

A. G. N. (128/26) writes: "Feeding is said to make cage-birds' feathers glossy, notably linseed (for Britishers). A trace of glycerin in the spraying-water a day or two previous to showing is said to do likewise. I have tried it, but cannot see much difference."

H. E. J. (27/11) writes: "Cod-liver oil capsules, 5-minim, 10-minim, and 20-minim, are very good for giving a beautiful gloss to the feathers of show-birds. I have a friend who uses nothing else, and is lifting 'firsts' all over Scotland. The capsules can be got in any size to suit any bird. The price is about 10*s.* per 1,000, and they can be bought in hundreds at this price from any wholesale drug-house."

Legal Queries.

For concise statements respecting various Acts which affect directly or indirectly the Chemical and Drug Trades, see the "*C. & D. Diary*," 1908, p. 456; Stamped Medicine Law, p. 435; Pharmacy and Poisons Law, p. 448; and Patents Law, p. 442.

C. A. S. (129/10).—The only way you can sell the cough-mixture unstamped is to state on the label what is in it or give a reference to a published formula.

E. O. (128/3).—(1) Your conclusions as regards the 1880 decision are correct. (2) Clause 3, sub-clause 4, of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill states what titles companies may use, and these do not include the 1852 Act titles or the title "pharmacist." The latter is expressly prohibited, and as to the others it is provided that Sections 1 and 15 of the 1868 Act shall apply to companies and firms in Scotland "subject as aforesaid"—*i.e.*, if they use any other Pharmacy Acts title than those expressly allotted to them they will be liable to the penalty of 5*l.* on conviction.

Kimia (128/25).—It is many years since the Board of Inland Revenue laid down the wording which may be used on labels for shop chlorodyne, and you will find it in the *C. & D. Diary*, 1908, p. 436. You cannot say on a chlorodyne made by yourself, "This preparation, introduced by Dr. Collis Browne," etc. That can only be said by Messrs. J. T. Davenport, Ltd., who have never made the formula public. Apart from the fact that you would infringe their rights by stating on your labels what you propose, a claim that a preparation is as introduced by Dr. Collis Browne at once makes it liable to medicine stamp-duty.

R. H. (123/13) wants to give his daughter the house she lives in, which belongs to him, and would like to know how to do it. The value of the house is about 600*l.* [The transaction could be carried out by a voluntary conveyance of the house by our subscriber to his daughter, the consideration being the natural love and affection he has for such daughter. This conveyance would, however, be void as against the trustee in bankruptcy within two years, and voidable within ten years, if during that time our subscriber should become bankrupt. The stamp-duty on the voluntary conveyance would be 10*s.* Subscriber should, however, explain all the facts to his lawyer and be guided by his advice, as a voluntary conveyance has many disadvantages and might depreciate the property if at some future time the daughter wishes to dispose of it.]

Assignment (123/35) and another person agreed to build three shops, but they have not taken up the lease. The agreement states that "the landlord will not be bound by notice of any mortgage or deposit or charge which may be made for securing advances of money on this agreement, nor can any interest in the premises be acquired by the deposit of this agreement." The agreement is, and always has been, in our subscriber's possession, and he has always paid the ground-rent. Can the other party to the agreement assign to our subscriber his interest without the consent of the landlord? [We do not care to give an opinion on this query without first seeing the agreement referred to. It would appear to be unwise not to take up the lease of the three shops. Probably the landlord would grant it to our subscriber alone, though, of course, by granting it to him and the other party the landlord would have two lessees jointly and severally liable to pay the rent and perform the covenants.]

Medicus (127/21) puts the following case: A is a registered chemist and druggist and medical practitioner, who, in addition to practising in the latter capacity, continues to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist which he had before he was qualified as a medical man. He does not use his name on the shop, but calls it So-and-so Drug-store. It is under the management of an unqualified assistant. How will the provisions of the Government Bill apply? [As A is a registered chemist and druggist he must conform to the conditions of Clause 3—*i.e.*, *bona-fide* conduct

the business himself or appoint a registered chemist and druggist to do so. In either case the name and qualification certificate of the person so conducting the business must be conspicuously exhibited in the premises. If the unqualified person continues to manage the shop, A will be liable to a fine under Section 15 of the 1868 Act, and the assistant will be liable to prosecution in respect to every sale of poison by him.]

W. J. E. (131/6).—Some linseed, liquorice, and chlorodyne lozenges contain no scheduled poison except chloroform, and that in so small quantity as to come within the High Court *de minimis non curat lex* ruling. Therefore, they are not regarded as scheduled poison. If yours are of that nature, they do not require a poison-label. Nothing which must legally be labelled "Poison" can be sold by a grocer.

Gregory (125/24).—If you introduce some phenol into the preparation you may quote the formula number proposed. This should satisfy the revenue requirements. You should, however, consider the desirability of stamping the article if you are to extend the sale beyond your own shop, as in that case sooner or later you will find it necessary to claim proprietary rights in it, and then the disclosure of the composition cannot benefit you.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months. A preliminary condition for reporting on samples submitted is that all particulars as to source and uses are given to us.

R. M. (116/29); **Optics** (117/51).—Your queries are being dealt with in "Optical Observations."

Phanix (108/72).—The powder you send which is used to promote the flow of milk in cows is, we presume, employed as a food. It resembles crushed oats, with the addition of an oil, such as cottonseed oil.

S. & Co. (101/61).—**BUTTER-COLOURING**.—Almond oil as the basis of butter-colouring would keep liquid all the year round. Mineral oil is inadmissible.

E. R. (99/19).—We do not know of a method of preparing junket without using rennet ferment in some form. Your query is, however, too bald for a satisfactory answer.

S. H. H. (115/49).—**FISH-FRYING COLOUR**.—Di-methyl-amido-azo-benzene, or butter-yellow, is employed for this purpose. It is generally sent out dissolved in oil, a little of the coloured oil being added to the vegetable oil in which the fish is fried.

P. R. H. (26/10).—There is no process for separating tallow from beeswax that could be applied commercially.

L. R. (92/43).—**DRENCH FOR PREVENTING ABORTION IN CATTLE**:

Camphor	...	...	...	1½ dr.
Sulphur	...	...	...	2 dr.
Liquorice powder to make	...	...	...	2 oz.

Mix.

This powder is given as a drench in sweetened gruel every week for two or three weeks; at the same time antiseptic precautions are taken externally and the building is disinfected.

C. W. R. (117/72).—It is impossible to analyse the mixture you send. It appears to contain such drugs as extracts of grindelia and cotton-root.

B. J. B. (116/54).—**PRINTER'S INK**.—Refer to *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, 1908, p. 217.

Hants (116/51).—**DENTAL WAX**.—See *C. & D.*, June 16, 1906, p. 932.

Subscriber (92/48).—We do not reply to anonymous inquiries.

W. S. F. (112/33).—Information regarding aniline marking-inks is given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

Science (121/13).—(1) To become a demonstrator on hygiene under a County Council the primary condition is suitable qualification. You do not give us any indication that you possess this. An application should be then made to the local Education Committee in regard to vacant lectureships. (2) *The C. & D.*, February 15, p. 279, contains detailed suggestions for popular lectures on elementary science.

Inquirer (130/14).—You will find several replies to young chemists who want to go abroad in our answers to correspondents during the past few months. Please look up the numbers. We cannot undertake to advise any particular individual as to whether he should emigrate or not. New Zealand wants only healthy and non-destitute immigrants—people who will help to make New Zealand better than it is.

Shampoo (101/74).—**SHAMPOO-POWDER**.—This is a mixture of powdered soap and sodium carbonate, the perfume being rosemary, lavender, and a little citronella. A recipe for a similar powder will be found in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with Sir C. N. Dal on, K.C.M.G., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form No. 7, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office. The figures in parentheses refer to the classes applied for.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 25, 1908.)

- "WINGED SHIP" device; for chemicals (1) and perfumery, etc. (48). By Paul Ruben, 56 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C. 302,236/256.
- "GLADIATOR"; for photographic goods (1) and papers (39). By Mawson & Swan, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 306,269/270.
- "PLIOCENE"; for a chemical (1). By Montgomerie, Stobo & Co., Ltd., 17 Houston Place, Glasgow. 306,666.
- "GERMINOID"; for a chemical (1). By the Crown Chemical Works, Ltd., Marsh Gate Lane, London, E. 306,933.
- "NORATZEEN" and "VIRUDANA"; for vermin-destroyers (2). By Danyez Virus, Ltd., 52 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C. 306,785, 307,420.
- "FLEETA"; for chemicals (2). By Isaac Bentley & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester. 307,327.
- "MENSTROVA"; for pills (3). By Ruth H. Wilkinson, 2 Ellercroft Road, Bradford. 304,118.
- "CAMPHOROID"; for camphor-preparations (3) and (4). By J. Lancaster, Auchenheath, N.B. 305,422/423.
- "ELIXIR 'QUINACINAS,'" and label device; for a medicine (3). By Roberts & Co., 76 New Bond Street London, W. 303,357.
- "COLVO"; for cod-liver oil preparations (3). By Risiccol, Ltd., 31-32 Budge Row, London, E.C. 306,413.
- "FLUIDEX"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Gale & Co., 15 Bouverie Street, London, E.C. 306,640.
- "SESSCO"; for cough-mixture (3). By Fisher, Bould & Co., Rectory Road, Clown. 306,872.
- Picture of man with football; for medicinal chemicals (3) and goods (49). By J. Timpson & Co., Ltd., 104 Golden Lane, London, E.C. 307,349.
- "PONTAMPON"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By John Morgan Richards & Sons, Ltd., 46 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C. 307,382.
- "ZOTOS"; for goods (4). By F. T. E. Souter, 37 Eger-ton Crescent, London, W. 307,116.
- "CALKINO"; for goods (4). By W. & C. Pantin, 147 Upper Thames Street, London, E.C. 307,254.
- "WINNER"; for eyeglasses and spectacles (8). By F. W. Bateman, 55 Berners Street, London, W. 306,953.
- "RADEX" and "STUDEX"; for photographic cameras (8). By A. L. Adams, 24 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. 307,613/4.
- "DEX"; for photographic paste (39). By A. W. Collier, Manor Park, London, E. 307,156.
- "NUVIN"; for aerated waters (43). By Jewsbury & Brown, Ardwick Green North, Manchester. 307,480.
- "QUIX"; for liquid soap (47). By F. H. Ibbetson, 88 Mayfield Road, Sanderstead, Surrey. 305,741.
- "LYCO"; for a chemical (47). By W. Canning & Co., 133-137 Great Hampton Street, Birmingham. 306,330.
- "SOLSKEN"; for goods (47) and perfumery, etc. (48). By Lever Bros., Ltd., Port Sunlight, Cheshire. 306,550/51.
- "AVILLIA"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By G. W. Ruff, 97 Charlotte Street, London, W. 305,539.
- "CAVALIER"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By C. G. Goodwin, Ordsall Lane Soap Works, Manchester. 306,373.
- "STEENOLINE"; for dentifrices (48). By J. F. Steen, 74 rue Montgolfier, Lyons. 306,386.
- "TOOTHOL"; for dentifrices (48). By the Toothol Co., 35 Castle Square, Carnarvon. 306,712.

Personalities.

MR. E. J. MILLARD, F.C.S., 35-42 Charlotte Street, London, E.C., would be glad to receive Benevolent Fund votes on behalf of Mr. Owen.

MR. PETER TYRER, of the Natural Food Company, reminds us that he devotes his time solely to that business, having years ago disposed of his sauce and sundries' business.

PROFESSOR P. CARMODY, Professor of Chemistry and Government Analyst at Trinidad, has received the additional appointment of Director of the new Department of Agriculture.

MR. JOHN SMITH and MR. W. F. WELLS, of Dublin, have visited London this week on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in connection with future stages of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill.

MR. J. YOUNG, chemist and druggist, 18 Fleet Street, Torquay, delivered a lecture on "Success or Failure in Business" to the Torre branch of the Church of England Men's Society on November 24.

MR. E. A. HOLLOWAY, chemist and druggist, 140 Broadway, Southend-on-Sea, won the silver cup of the Thorpe Hall Golf Club in the autumn junior competition at Southchurch-on-Sea. Mr. Holloway is a left-handed player.

A RECENTLY published book by Mr. Peter Macnair, on "The Geology and Scenery of the Grampians and the Valley of Strathmore," is illustrated with excellent photographs of Scotch scenery by Mr. William L. Howie, of Messrs. Barron, Harveys & Co., Ltd., Giltspur Street, London, E.C.

AN appreciation of Mr. Samuel W. Fairchild, of New York, appears in a recent issue of the "Pharmaceutical Era," from which we learn that he was born in Stratford, Conn., and was a pupil of the late Alfred B. Taylor, Philadelphia. In 1873 he graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, then went to Caswell, Hazard & Co. and McKesson & Robbins. He remained five years with them, and in 1878 he joined his elder brother, Mr. Benjamin T. Fairchild, in founding the business of Fairchild Bros., which, by the admission, in 1881, of Mr. Macomb G. Foster, became Fairchild Bros. & Foster. Mr. Fairchild has always been a loyal son of his *alma mater*, the Philadelphia College of pharmacy; yet he has found time to take an active interest in pharmaceutical educational affairs generally. He has long been a member of the New York College of Pharmacy, and from 1890 to 1896 served as its president. He is a man of many affairs—e.g., a trustee of the Bowery Bank of Savings, and director of the Market and Fulton Bank, the Mutual Bank, and the United States Life Insurance Co. He is a veteran of the Seventh Regiment, N.G., N.Y.

THE HON. FRANCIS WATTS, C.M.G., D.Sc., is to succeed Sir Daniel Morris, K.C.M.G., as Commissioner of Agriculture in the West Indies. Dr. Watts, who is eminently fitted for this high office, served his apprenticeship as a chemist with the late Mr. W. Coleman, of Wolverhampton. In 1883, two years after passing the Minor examination, he went to the West Indies as chemist to the Montserrat Co., Ltd., and in 1889 he was appointed analytical chemist to the Government of Antigua, directing much of his attention to agriculture, especially the sugar-cane. In 1898 he was appointed analytical and agricultural chemist to the Government of Jamaica, but he returned to the Leeward Islands in the following year as analytical and agricultural chemist to the Government of that Colony. In 1903 he became also superintendent of agriculture for the Leeward Islands, an appointment connected with the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies. Dr. Watts has carried out much good work in connection with sugar-cane, cotton, limes, cacao, etc., and his services to planters in general have been highly thought of. He has also done



DR. F. WATTS.

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much to foster the citrate-of-lime industry in the West Indies, an account of the progress in which has been given in these columns from time to time. Dr. Watts is a F.C.S. (1883), a F.I.C. (1889), an Associate of Mason College, Birmingham (1899), B.Sc. Birmingham (1902), and proceeded under the ordinary regulations to the degree of Doctor of Science, Birmingham, in 1904.

Business Changes.

BUTES' STORES have been opened at 51A, High Street, Camden Town, London, N.W.

MESSRS. LEWIS & Co. have opened new premises at 161 Stoke Newington Road, London, N.

MR. T. H. WILSON, chemist and druggist, has acquired premises at 741 Barking Road, London, E.

MESSRS. BUCKLEY & Co. have removed from No. 111 to larger premises at 172 Earl's Court Road, London, S.W.

MR. T. W. CLEAVE, chemist and druggist, has sold his branch business at 107 Windmill Road, Brentford, to Mr. Norris.

MR. J. SHELLCROSS, chemist and druggist, has taken over Messrs. Pain & Bayles' business at 75 Bramford Road, Ipswich.

MR. S. H. SMALL, chemist and druggist, has bought the business of Mr. E. Ballard, chemist and druggist, 12 Kingsholme Road, Gloucester.

MR. BRYCE McDOWELL, registered druggist, is opening a shop at 32 Bridge End, Belfast, as soon as the necessary structural alterations are finished.

MR. A. MACSWEEN, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business of Mr. Mungo Wallace, chemist and druggist, at 193 St. George's Road, Glasgow.

MR. A. BLACKBOURN, chemist, of Longmore Street, Birmingham, asks us to state that it is not he who has taken over the business of Douglas & Co., at Small Heath.

MR. A. E. KENNERLEY, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of the late Mr. H. Pickavant, chemist and druggist, at 170 New Cross Road, London, S.E.

MESSRS. HOOPER & Co., 59 High Street, Peckham, S.E., have purchased the prescription and recipe books of Mann, Ltd., who have closed their premises, 45 Rye Lane, Peckham.

MESSRS. CAMPBELL & Co., chemists and druggists, 36 Great Edward Street, Belfast, are removing five doors up, to much more commodious premises at the corner of May Street.

MR. J. F. O'DONNELL, registered druggist, has acquired the business formerly carried on by Mr. Wm. Kelly, L.P.S.I., at Buncrane, co. Donegal. Mr. O'Donnell served his apprenticeship with Dr. McCaul, Ferryquay Street, Londonderry.

SATURDAY last witnessed the passing of one of the oldest established pharmacies in Kingston-on-Thames. After a tenure of thirty-three years, Mr. W. Brewster has retired from active business life, the premises having been acquired by the London Joint-stock Bank for the erection of a branch. They are situated in the Market Place, opposite the old King's Stone, whereon many of the old Saxon kings were crowned. It is interesting to note that this business was established over sixty years ago by the late Mr. F. Gould, pharmacist and surgeon-dentist.

Where to Study.

The following educational institutions are advertising in this week's issue:

Muter's (South London) College of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, London S.E.

London College of Chemistry and Pharmacy, 323 Clapham Road, London, S.W.

Highbury New Park College, Highbury, London, N.

North of England School of Pharmacy, 55 Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Bath and West of England College of Chemistry and Pharmacy, 6 Cleveland Place East, Bath.

Liverpool School of Pharmacy, 18 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

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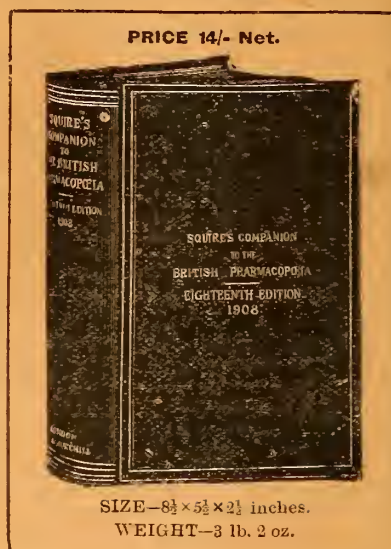
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CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, November 14, 1908.

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THE BRITISH AND COLONIAL DRUGGIST, November 20, 1908.



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SQUIRE & SONS, 413 Oxford Street, LONDON, W.